

Today's
Advertisements.THEATRE ROYAL,
CITY HALL.

NOTE! NOTE! NOTE!

ALTERATION OF OPENING DATE.

The Season will Open on
MONDAY, the 19th March,
As owing to future Arrangements, the Co's
Stay will be shorter than usual.

M. R. HENRY DALLAS and Entire Com-
pany from the

THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA,
will Open his Second Hongkong Season
with a
GRAND PRODUCTION
of the Charming Japanese Opera,

"THE GEISHA,"

MONDAY,
MARCH 19TH.

"THE GEISHA,"

will be repeated on the Three following Nights.

FULL ORCHESTRA AND CHORUS.

PLAN at ROBINSON PIANO CO.
USUAL PRICES.

B. HERMANN,
Business Manager.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1900. [351b]

EYE-SIGHT.

M. R. LAZARUS,
Oculist-Optician, of London and Calcutta, may
be consulted for SPECTACLES at
BREWSTER & CO.
(Under the HONGKONG HOTEL).
Business Hours: 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

A great proportion of cataracts and diseases
affecting those advancing in life occur to those
having some deficiency in the construction of
the eye—the most common of "Eye Strain"
ending in serious forms of disease. Glasses
specially adapted in youth to those requiring
them save and preserve the sight.

Constantly recurring headaches, spells of
dimness when reading, weak eyes, the letters
jumping together, any of these symptoms
indicate a deficiency in the form of the eye
requiring Glasses only to correct and cure.
Mr. LAZARUS, supplies his SPECTA-
CLES only after testing the sight.
ADVICE FREE. [354b]

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAM-
SHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA, VIA AMOY.
The Company's New Steamship

"DIAMANTE,"
Captain Blackland, will be despatched for the
above port, on WEDNESDAY, the 21st instant,
at 5 P.M.
The attention of Passengers is directed to
the excellent accommodation provided by this
steamer. She is fitted throughout with Electric
Light.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1900. [353b]

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL
STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR
STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, ADEN,
EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS,
PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.
(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA,
PERSIAN GULF, INDIAN and
AMERICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship

"PARRAMATTA,"
Captain A. Symonds, carrying Her Majesty's
Mails, will be despatched from this Port for
MARSEILLES and LONDON (DIRECT),
on SATURDAY, the 31st instant, at Noon,
taking Passengers and Cargo for the above
Ports.

Parcels will be received at this Office until 4
P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and
Value of all Packages are required.
Shippers are particularly requested to note
the terms and conditions of the Company's
Bills of Lading.

For further Particulars, apply to
H. A. RITCHIE,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1900. [355b]

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM MIDDLESBOROUGH, ANTWERP,
LONDON, COLOMBO AND
SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship

"TAMBA MARU,"
having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees
of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods,
are being landed and placed at their risk in the
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown
Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each
consignment will be sorted out, mark by mark,
and delivery can be obtained as soon as the
goods are landed.

Optional goods will be landed here unless
instructions are given to the contrary before
Noon TO-DAY.

Goods not cleared by the 22nd instant, will
be subject to rent.
All ship-damaged packages must be left in
the Godowns where they will be examined
on THURSDAY, the 22nd instant, and MON-
DAY, the 26th instant, both days at 10 A.M.,
upon notice of such damage being sent in
beforehand to this Office.

All claims must reach us before the 26th
instant, or they will not be recognised.
No Fire Insurance will be effected.
N.B.—Consignees of certain shipments are
required to sign an Average Bond and deposit
5% on their values before Bills of Lading can
be countersigned for delivery.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1900. [356b]

Intimation.



A. S. WATSON & Co.,
LIMITED.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

BRANDIES.

- A.—Hennessy's Old Pale, Red
Capsule - - - - - \$18
B.—Superior Very Old Cognac
Red Capsule - - - - - \$21
C.—Very Old Liqueur Cognac
V.O.—D.—Hennessy's Finest
Very Old Liqueur Cog-
nac, 1872 Vintage, Red
Capsule - - - - - \$36
V.V.O.—E.—Finest Very Old
Liqueur Cognac, 1862
Vintage - - - - - \$48

All our Brandies are guaranteed to
be PURE COGNAC, the differences in
price being merely a question of age
and vintage.

Sample bottles and smaller quanti-
ties will be supplied at proportionate
wholesale rates.

A. S. WATSON & CO. LIMITED,
QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1900.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE WAR.

Prisoners sent to St. Helena.
LONDON, March 15th.
Commandant Cronje and the bulk of the
Boer prisoners have sailed for St. Helena.

General Warren's Division.
General Warren's division, after embarking
at Durban, has been re-landed.

The Orange Free State.
President Steyn has proclaimed Koonstad
the Capital of the Free State.

Concentration in Cape Colony.
General Clements forces at Norval's Pont,
General Gatacre's at Bethulie, and General
Brabant's at Alwal's Norval's Pont, General
Gatacre's at Bethulie, and General Brabant's
at Alwal's North are joining hands.

Lord Salisbury's Reply to the
Peace Proposals.
Lord Salisbury's reply has evoked bitter
resentment at Pretoria. On the Continent
it was received calmly.

France and the War.
M. Delcassé, speaking in the Senate, said,
that after Great Britain's public reply to
President Kruger's telegram the Powers can-
not intervene.

The United States and the War.
Mr. Balfour speaking in the House of
Commons said that Lord Salisbury was
thankful for the friendly tone of the com-
munication from the United States, which
intimated that President McKinley would be
glad, in any friendly manner, to aid in
restoring peace but the Premier added that
the Government does not propose to accept
the intervention of any Power. The an-
nouncement was received with loud and pro-
longed cheering.

Boers Entrenched.
The Boers occupy several strongly entrenched
positions with guns at the junction of the
Drakensburg and Biggarsberg ranges.

Lord Roberts at Bloemfontein.
Lord Roberts met with a tremendous
ovation at Bloemfontein.

WEATHER REPORT.

The Observatory report says:—
On the 17th at 11.55 a.m. barometric changes
are slight. Pressure remains high over N.E.
China, with moderate gradients and fresh mon-
soon along the China coast. FORECAST:—
Fresh N.E. winds; dull, rainy.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

M. OLAROVSKY, the Russian Minister to Siam,
has left Bangkok for St. Petersburg via America.
At the Bangkok United Club, on news being
received of the relief of Ladysmith, a little
gathering of Anglo-Saxons (toasted) Generals
Buller and White and sent off congratulatory
telegrams to each.

THE question of the re-arming of the Indian
Native army with the magazine rifle is now
engaging the attention of the Government of
India. The decision, it is to be hoped, will
shortly be made known.

THE King of Siam has decreed that knowledge
of the English language shall form a qualifica-
tion to the attainment of places of prominence
in the Siamese Government service.

WE are requested to state that The Band of
the Hongkong Regiment will play on the sea
front Kowloon to-morrow afternoon weather
permitting.

THE Band of the Hongkong Regiment will
play at the Hongkong Hotel this evening, from
3 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

PROGRAMME.

- 1.—March "May Day" Freud.
2.—Overture "Lodwick" Cherubini.
3.—Valse "Southern Breeze" Massini.
4.—Selection "Fadon Hall" Sullivan.
5.—Fantasia "The Cavalier" Kappey.
6.—Polka "Le Cavalier" Fabisbach.
7.—"And save the Queen"

THUS an advertisement in the Straits Times.

THE WAR.
Advertiser is anxious to go to South Africa
to join the cavalry or light horse, but has not
the means to do so; is young and active and
can ride and shoot well; has had experience;
and will be thankful if any kind gentleman or
society could help him there.

Reply "IN EXTREMIS,"
c/o Straits Times.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to a Singapore Con-
tributor:—"This morning coming to office I
met a Malay policeman in a sick or dead
Celestial, his feet hanging over the dash board
and his head on the seat. Where he was being
carried to I do not know? Why can't they use
in Singapore, as elsewhere, an ambulance; or
even a coffin and couple of coolies. The idea
of carrying a sick or dead man about in a public
vehicle is simply horrid." Even Hongkong is
not so backward as this.

A MOST enjoyable entertainment was given by
the crew of the U.S.S. *Albatross* last night
on board their ship. Owing to the inclemency
of the weather there was only a fair gathering
of people present, amongst whom were Consul
General and Mrs. Wildman, Naval Constructor
Holborn, Commodore, Mrs. and the Misses
Powell, etc. The entertainment was in every
way a perfect success, every item being loudly
applauded by the audience. Launches, kindly
lent by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock
Company, conveyed the guests to and from the
ship at the conclusion of the performance.

MR. HENRY DALLAS announces an alteration
in his opening date which is now fixed for
Monday next, 19th inst., instead of the follow-
ing Wednesday, as was previously advertised.
The cause of the change lies in the fact that
the steamer which brought the company from
Singapore arrived much earlier than was ex-
pected, so Mr. Dallas, in view of the fact that
owing to future arrangements his season this
year will be much shorter than it was on his
last visit, determined to take advantage of the
opportunity and commence on the date now
fixed. He brings a strong Company and many
of the latest London successes, so his stay,
though brief, should certainly be highly success-
ful, as it was last year.

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET.

HONGKONG, Friday, March 16th.
Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly and Potts, in their
weekly share report, state:—

Business has been fairly brisk and the activity
in the market reported in our last circular has
been maintained. The China Sugar Refining
Company, Limited, has advertised its Twenty-
Second Ordinary Annual Meeting for the 29th
March. The transfer books close from the
16th to the 29th instant, both days inclusive.
The Hongkong and China Baking Company,
Limited, has notified that its Twenty-Eighth
General Meeting will take place on the 20th
March. The China Mutual Steam-Navigation
Company, Limited, has declared a Final Divi-
dend of 3 per cent. on the preference shares, and
a Dividend of 10 per cent. with the addition of
a Bonus of 3½ per share on the Ordinary
shares, payable on the 21st March. The
transfer books close from the 16th to 20th
instant, inclusive. Banks—Hongkong and
Shanghai Bank:—The bank ruled firm with small
sales at 3½ per cent. premium, cash. On
time shares are wanted at better than equivalent
rates. Nationals are firm at 3½ ex the dividend
of \$1.36 per share paid on the 12th instant.
Marine Insurance—Unions have been sold at
\$30. China Traders have been placed in small
lots and are wanted at \$52. Yangtzes are
steady at \$130. Fire Insurance—Hongkong
and China Fires have declined to \$305 and \$80
respectively, owing to losses sustained through
the destruction of Jardine, Matheson's Godown
in Shanghai and the Hongkong and Shanghai
Bank premises in Peking. Shipping—Hong-
kong, Canton and Macao Steamships re-acted
to \$24 sales, but are again firmer with sales
and buyers at \$29. Indo-China has been
fixed at \$90 and \$91. China and Manillas have
changed hands at \$120. Douglas Steamships
have been in some demand and sales have
been effected at \$305 and \$51. Star Ferries
have ruled firm with sales at \$183 and \$183.
Refineries—China Sugars have been dealt
in fairly extensively at \$141 and \$145, and
close quiet at \$138. Mining—Punjoms have
been in some demand and sales have been
effected at \$74, \$74, 28 cents and \$81. Queen
Minas have been done at 25 cents. Jelicho
are easier and obtainable at \$131. Raubas have
been negotiated at \$61. Olivers "A" have
been done at \$6 and the "B" shares at \$5.
Docks, Wharves and Godowns—Hongkong
and Whampoa Docks have been fixed at 495
and 500 per cent. premium. Kowloon Wharf
shares have been sold at \$83 and close steady.
We hear the Company intends to issue 10,000
new shares at \$75 per share in the proportion
of one new to every two old shares. Wharf
Warehouses are wanted at \$47. Lands, Hotels
and Buildings—Hongkong Lands have been in
strong request and have changed hands at \$125
and \$126. West Points are easier and
have been sold at \$31, \$50 and \$49. Hong-
kong Hotels are steady with sales at \$126½,
\$127 and \$128. It is proposed to pay a final
dividend of 25 per share and write \$1,500 off
Furniture and Fixtures Account, and carry
forward \$15,000. China Providents have been
done at \$9.35 and \$9.25. Cotton Mills—Ewes
had a sharp rise and have been booked at \$12.
20. Hongkong Cottons are steady at \$37. Cigar
Companies—La Commercials have been taken
off the market at 35 per cent. premium and are
firm at the rate. Miscellaneous—Green Island
Cements have been done to a considerable
extent at \$30 and \$30½. China Borneos are
easier for \$17. A. S. Watsons are quieter
with sellers at \$54. China Bakeries are in
strong demand owing to the very splendid
report just issued.

We would remind our readers that the first
performance of "The Geisha" takes place on
Monday.

WATKINS, LIMITED.

The first ordinary general of the above Com-
pany was held at their offices at noon to day.
The following were present:—Messrs. G. A.
Watkins, in the chair, Chan A. Fook, T. Yule,
J. R. Michael, H. Varelmann, Chow Hun Wah,
and K. W. Mounsey.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, with your
permission we will follow the usual course
adopted at meetings of this kind and take the
report and accounts, which have been in
your hands for some days, as read. Your
General Managers are gratified at being able
to lay before you (what they consider) a very
favourable report for the year 1899. We have
a sum of \$15,022.43 nett profit on the year's
working available for distribution, which we
recommend should be dealt with in the follow-
ing manner:—Pay shareholders a dividend at
the rate of 8% annum on the paid up
capital of the Company, amounting \$8,000,000,
carry forward the balance of \$7,022.43 to a new
profit and loss account; this we trust will
be acceptable to you all. We have entered
on another year under favourable auspices,
the returns for January and February being
highly satisfactory, those of March give promise
of being equally so. Our Altered Water Factory
in Mason's Lane is being fitted up with the
best and most modern machinery procurable
in England. We have secured the services of
Mr. McLaughlin, who arrived from England
last January, who, besides being a fully qualified
Pharmaceutical chemist, has had extensive
experience in the manufacture of aerated waters.
We have purchased a steam launch suitable
for our harbour work, and in the course of a
few weeks shall be turning out mineral waters
of a quality unsurpassed by any in the Orient.
Before proposing the adoption of the report
and passing the statement of accounts, I shall
be happy to answer any questions you may
desire to ask.

There being no questions, the Chairman pro-
posed the adoption of the report and accounts,
Mr. J. R. Michael seconded and the proposi-
tion was carried unanimously.

The Chairman:—Gentlemen, I thank you for
your attendance. Dividend warrants will be
ready on Monday.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL COM-
PANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the Board of
Directors for presentation at the ordinary meet-
ing of shareholders, to be held at the Com-
pany's Hotel, at noon, on Tuesday, the 27th
March, 1900:—

To the shareholders of the Hongkong Hotel
Company, Limited.

Gentlemen,—In accordance with Section 53
of the Company's Articles of Association, the
Directors beg to submit their half-yearly Re-
port for the six months ended the 31st Decem-
ber, 1899.

ACCOUNTS.

The profit on Working Account for the half-
year amounted to \$27,183.11, as compared with
\$62,809.94 for the corresponding six months of
1898, showing an increase of \$24,373.17.

The Profit and Loss Account, including a
credit balance of \$15,488.85 brought forward
from 30th June, 1899, shows a credit balance
of \$90,285.33, which your Directors propose to
deal with as follows:—

To write off Furniture and Fixtures.....	\$15,000.00
To place to Reserve Fund.....	15,000.00
To pay a final Dividend of 10 per cent. for the half- year, absorbing.....	60,000.00
To carry forward to new ac- count.....	285.33
	\$90,285.33

The dividend, with the 6 per cent. paid for
the previous half-year, gives a return of 16 per
cent. on the paid up capital for the year.

LAUNCH.

The old launch was sold at a profit of \$2,000
over its book value and a more suitable boat
has taken its place.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. R. C. Wilcox and E. Osborne retire
by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDIT.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs.
W. H. Potts and W. H. Gaskell, whose re-election
is recommended.

EDWARD OSBORNE,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 16th March, 1900.

DESTRUCTION BY FIRE OF THE
THEATRE FRANCAIS.

A Havas telegram received at Shanghai on
11th inst. announced the total destruction by
fire of the Théâtre Français at Paris with all its
priceless contents; one actress being reported
burnt to death. The destruction of the House
of Molière, the home of the Comédie Française,
created by royal decree in 1680, and which has
flourished uninterruptedly ever since, is the great-
est blow that theatrical art could receive. The great
building now destroyed was opened originally
in 1793, and much enlarged in 1864. It con-
tained not only a large theatre with all its ap-
paratus and number of dressing-rooms
purchances and number of dressing-rooms
such as the ordinary theatre provides, but
picture gallery, a museum, and a library, full of
treasures of incalculable value, which can never
be replaced. It is to be hoped that the destruc-
tion will turn out not to be so complete as
it is now supposed to be.—N. C. Daily News.

SUBSCRIPTION FOR LADY
ALABASTER.

A subscription list is being circulated among
the community in order that a purse may be
raised for Lady Alabaster, says the N. C. D.
News, who has been left in needy circumstan-
ces by the death of her husband, Sir Chaloner
Alabaster. Many of us were personal friends
of Sir Chaloner, and all of us know what an
unfailing champion he was of British rights
and British prestige in China, what a good
friend he was, and how assiduously he worked
in furthering British interests at every port
or otherwise in his Chair subject who came
to him. Mr. A. J. Howe will be glad to
receive subscriptions from anyone at Shanghai
or in the outposts who feels inclined to partici-
pate in this testimonial to the late Sir Chaloner's
deserts, and contributions sent to Mr. Howe
will be forwarded by him to Mr. George Jamieson,
to be added to a similar fund now being
collected at home.

We would call the attention of our readers to
the change of date of the opening performance
of the *Dallas Company* as notified elsewhere.

THE BOXERS OF CHIHLI
PROVINCE.

Much has been written about the doings of
the "Boxers" or *Pihou Chuan* in Shantung
province, but a letter received lately by a
Tientsin merchant here from his family in the
district city of Hsinch'eng, province of Peking,
the provincial capital of Chihli, which we
have been allowed to translate, while both
amusing and interesting, will show how these
ruffians in Chihli manage for themselves.

"The Boxers in Chihli who were initiated last
year by emissaries sent by the parent society
in Shantung, have apparently made their head-
quarters here in our district and some 800 of
them are now gathered in a walled hamlet only
a few miles outside our city. So long as these
men were occupied in organising themselves,
seeking recruits, and collecting swords, spears
and firearms—mainly revolvers—they evidently
had no time to make any disturbances on a
large scale. It seemed that our district magis-
trate merely closed his eyes and ears and ignored
their existence. He apparently trusted to his
lucky star that the Boxers would not organise
any riots against the Christian villages in his
jurisdiction, whereby he would escape trouble
and censure from the Viceroy at Tientsin.
Unfortunately this magistrate's star was any-
thing but lucky for him, for no sooner had
these Boxers got everything ready for taking
the field than they began to menace the
safety of several Christian hamlets near
by, which had long expected trouble and
had repeatedly notified their dangerous
condition to the district magistrate whose
name, by the way, is Sich, but in vain. At last
when matters culminated in a decided attempt
to storm a Christian village, the district
magistrate was compelled to appeal to Tientsin
for help. This news getting to the ears of
the leaders of the Boxers, a strong party of
them visited the magistrate's *yamen* and
demanded his apology and also funds and
supplies in aid of the holy cause.

Although it appeared that the magistrate
had been notified of the proposed visit and
had collected by his side several military
officers who commanded patrols in the neigh-
bourhood of Hsinch'eng and had about 40
of their soldiers, besides some 70 *yamen*
runners and thief-takers, he was thoroughly
cowed by the threatening aspect of the Boxer
leaders and their 30 well-armed, mounted
followers. And though the military officers,
despising the small numbers of the Boxers,
were indignant at the cowardice of the magis-
trate and wished to arrest the daring enemy,
the magistrate would not allow it and tried to
parley with them. One of the conditions pre-
ferred by our magistrate was that if he granted
their demand for supplies and funds, the Boxers
should guarantee to leave Hsinch'eng district
free from all disturbance! In other words, so
long as Hsinch'eng and its dependencies were
left in peace the Boxers could work their will
on the Christians of other districts for aught
our magistrate cared. But the Boxer leaders
evidently had their eyes on certain well-off
Christians in their neighbourhood and em-
phatically refused to yield to the magistrate's
demand.

"In the meantime the Boxers in the *yamen*
were being gradually and quietly reinforced by
men from their village encampment until at last
there were some 400 of them well-equipped and
armed in front of the *yamen*. Finding them-
selves now strong enough for every eventuality
the leaders at once made it plain to the
magistrate that, if he was so ill-advised as to
decline to give them funds and supplies, they
would help themselves not only by plundering
his *honour* and his *yamen* but also every shop
and residence in the city worth sacking.

"On being told these terms the magistrate
looked at his military officers and the officers
looked at him, for by this time, seeing how
matters stood, these valiant military officers
were not one-tenth as anxious to arrest the
Boxer leaders as they had been an hour ago.
Finally, there being 'no help for it,' as the
magistrate puts it, the magistrate ordered a
thousand bags of rice to be handed out of the
city granary to the Boxers and a package of
silver, as 'drink money' to the leaders. The
latter then asked how much silver the package
contained and were told 'Five 50.' In a most
matter-of-fact way the chief of the Boxers
called for a balance from the *yamen* account-
ant's room, which being brought, revealed the
fact that there was only Tls. 49.30 in the
package! With a curse the chief threw the
opened package into the room where the parley
was being held, and the broken pieces of silver
rolled over the whole place, some of which
getting to the line of Boxers in the rear
of the leaders were, of course, surreptitiously
snatched up. The magistrate turned pale
and so did the military officers. 'What
would you have then, my brave hero
(*chuang shih*)' was the quavering ques-
tion of the magistrate. 'Your life, if you are
not careful!' was the fierce and menacing
reply of the chief Boxer. 'If you thought that
the drink money we bestowed upon you was
insufficient, why didn't you say so, instead of
throwing the money away in a manner so in-
grate to the generous heart of his Honour?

"Name your requirements: said one of the
military officers braver than the rest. 'Four
hundred taels and not a *candareen* less,'
replied the chief. 'But, said the magistrate, 'there
isn't such a sum in the whole *yamen*. How
can I give what I have not?' 'Then you will
have to come with us and take the risk,' replied
the chief, at the same time beckoning to one of
his companions to bring up the rest of the Boxers
into the room.

"The magistrate groaned; then signing to his
secretary, the man went to an inner room and
brought out without more ado several packages of
silver which were laid on the table before him.
Between the officials and the Boxer leaders.
'How much is that?' asked the chief. 'Tls. 350,'
which with the money on the floor will make up
the amount you demand, was the reply.
'Bring out another package while you are
about it. I intend the money on the floor as
drink money, as you call it, for my men.' No
sooner had these words been spoken by the
chief than there was a rush and a scramble,
and in an instant all the silver lying on the
floor was snatched up by the Boxers who had
followed their leaders into the room. The
latter then sarcastically bent one knee to the
magistrate and grinned their thanks for 'his
Honour's generosity.'

"The chief then methodically weighed the
silver in a provokingly slow manner, compell-
ing the magistrate to make good the loss
of weight in every package supposed to con-
tain 'fifty taels of good silver,' after which
with another sarcastic bend of one knee
the Boxers slowly filed out of the room
into the great courtyard where they were
joined by the bulk of their men, and so on out
of the city into the country. As an instance of
the contempt in which these Boxers hold the
officials and troops, when they came out of the
yamen they made no attempt to provide
against attack or surprise en route, but joked
and laughed with the people who lined the
streets leading to the city-gate. In contrast to
this, as soon as the magistrate found that the
Boxers had completely left the city, he ordered
the gates to be closed at once, and the main
walls to be manned by *chuang shih*, or
trained bands of the city, some 200 of them,
and acted generally as if there were a state of
siege. In other words, mending his leaky
roof after a disastrous storm of rain. Another

urgent appeal for aid was then sent to Viceroy
Yu Lu at Tientsin, and we hear that
H.E. intends to send General Ho of Tientsin
here 'to investigate.' In the meantime
the Boxers, encouraged by what has passed,
have become more daring and audacious in
their attacks on innocent men, while their
numbers are being constantly augmented—all
because of the cowardice of the mandarins,
both civil and military.
Hsinch'eng, 1st March.—N. C. D. News

"The Absent-Minded Beggar."

Every night the half-past twelve train from Victoria to Ludgegate-hill is the theatre of a pathetic demonstration. It is the "Absent-Minded Beggar," who, in the excitement of the moment, has forgotten to take his ticket. He is a modest but accomplished gentleman connected with the Alhambra Theatre takes a seat. He was discovered some time ago, and induced to sing the solo, all his fellow-passengers repeating the refrain with throat-cracking vigour. Since then his leadership has been demanded by passengers who have seen him before, and the strangers never fail to catch the enthusiasm. The National Anthem follows, supplemented by humorous calls for pro-Boers, who, however, do not seem to travel by this train.

The Chamber of Shipping.

The Chamber of Shipping held their annual meeting on 14th ult. at the Cannon-street Hotel. The report was read by Mr. W. J. Pirrie, of Belfast, having been elected president of the Chamber for the ensuing year, delivered an inaugural address, in which he referred to the great prosperity of trade. We possessed more tonnage of shipping than all the rest of the world put together, and we held practically the carrying trade of the world in our hands. After expressing confidence in the ability of the nation to maintain its commercial supremacy in spite of foreign competition, Mr. Pirrie dwelt on the great services rendered to the country by the mercantile marine in the present war, and remarked that the whole of the Imperial and Colonial forces had up to the present been carried in safety, without the loss of a single life. He urged the desirability of improving the dock, loading, and other facilities at our ports. Various resolutions dealing with questions, legislative and other, of interest for ship-owners were afterwards carried.

Severe Weather in London.

We have been visited this week, says a mail paper, by weather of a severe and wintry character. The discomfort of the atmospheric conditions culminated in London on 13th ult. in a veritable blizzard. From five o'clock snow began to fall, and was drifting about in bewildering fashion by a strong wind. The storm continued fitfully until midnight, and locomotion was rendered most difficult and uncomfortable. Rain succeeded, and in the morning the streets were several inches deep in melting snow. Many accidents, due to the dangerous condition of the roads, have been reported. In the provinces the weather has been equally severe. A blizzard of great severity visited Bucks, Berks, Oxon, Bedfordshire and Herts on 13th ult. Driven by a high wind, the snow drifted to considerable depths, rendering travelling very difficult. Traffic on the main thoroughfares was practically suspended. On the North-Western main line trains were greatly impeded by the heavy fall of snow, which in places was 6 ft. deep. Several deaths from exposure are reported, and as there have been severe gales round the coasts a large number of shipwrecks have occurred.

The Secret Service Fund.

Statements and questions in both Houses of Parliament have called attention to the amount of money spent on the Secret Service. The annual Vote for the last four or five years has been £3,000,000; in 1894-5 the Estimates provided for a sum of £2,300,000. In 1893-4 some money appropriated to defray the charge of Her Majesty's Foreign, and other Secret Services (to quote the precise terms of the wording of the Estimates) was not much above £2,000,000. However, in 1886 the figure was £2,000,000, of which £1,400,000 was actually spent. And as a general thing the amount provided for in the Estimates has been considerably above what has been required. A hundred years ago the Votes for the Secret Service were nearly always very much larger sums, owing to the war with France and the disturbed state of affairs in Ireland. The fall of Napoleon was immediately followed by a marked reduction in this class of the national expenditure. Thus, the Estimates for each of the years 1814 and 1815 set apart as much as £1,750,000, but for the year 1816 the sum appropriated was brought down to £500,000. And although the amount had risen to £600,000 in 1820, it has never since stood at anything like the large sums which were common enough at the beginning of the century.

Germany and China.

In an article on German interests in China, the *Berliner Neueste Nachrichten* says that the commerce of the Southern provinces is the most valuable, and that it must necessarily be developed chiefly by England and France. On the other hand, there is plenty of scope for German enterprise in the North. Although the Germans may find that in some Northern regions the English have forestalled them, this ought to oppose no serious obstacle to German expansion. In the North the English are too far removed from their real base of operations to be able to place any difficulties in the path of a systematic German advance. The fact that the English have diverged into these districts is an evidence of their value. These British settlements are connected with discoveries of gold, of which the importance cannot yet be estimated. Germany ought to imitate the example of Russia in establishing postal stations on the great highways of communication and waterways, and to regard every position who carries the German mail as a German pioneer. Finally, attention is directed to the necessity of "no longer tolerating Chinese Customs offices in the Chinese possessions of Germany, since the chief of these institutions are invariably in the service of British interests."

The Navy League Report.

The Report of the Navy League for 1900 mentions that the Queen has been pleased to support the efforts made by the organization. The present Naval position of the country is examined in detail, and the document concludes as follows:—"Certain Army defects have been pointed out for years—in vain—with results which the whole nation mourns to-day. Are we to wait for the stern tests of war before we rectify patent shortcomings in the equipment of our first line of defence? The necessities of the situation appear to be:—(a) Improved ordnance—especially the replacement of out-of-date breech-loading and muzzle-loading guns. The early breech-loaders are vastly inferior to the newer pattern, and use smoky powder. Such guns are being eliminated from foreign fleets. (b) Increased number of battleships. (c) Greatly increased number of cruisers with superior speed. (d) Provision of floating workshops and properly-fitted colliers. (e) A Intelligence Department to the existing Admiralty. (f) The provision of a numerically adequate Naval Reserve. (g) A great increase in the number of lieutenants in which rank we have fewer than France alone. (h) A Naval Staff College, to do what the French, German, and American higher Naval Colleges or schools effect."

Russia and Afghanistan.

The St. Petersburg Correspondent of the *Times*, writing on Feb. 9, says:—In spite of

official assurances that nothing will be done by Russia to embarrass England in the present situation of affairs, everything known and reported in St. Petersburg on this subject tends, unfortunately, to create the conviction that those assurances, like so many of a similar character, must not be considered to hold good for the future in all circumstances. There is a persisted circulation of rumours and facts about Kushk and Herat which may or may not be caused by the restless and anti-British element in order simply to make England's flesh creep. It was declared in the official censored and corrected telegram from Tiflis that only one battalion of troops had been sent to Kushk as an experiment, but it is now positively asserted from more than one competent source that the whole brigade of Caucasus Rifles to which that battalion belonged has gone towards the Afghan frontier. The correspondent adds:—If the entire brigade, with its accompanying artillery and Cossacks, has not actually reached the Afghan frontier, it is, at least, being moved along the route or posted at places on the way towards that destination. The number of troops concentrated at Kushk, or thereabouts, is estimated at some 20,000 men. Most Russians are competent to judge are quite convinced that Russia intends sooner or later to take Herat.

British North Borneo.

Commenting on the recent disturbances caused by Salleh and his followers, the *Globe* remarks:—

Except for a very small minority of irreconcilables, the people have been well content with British rule almost from the first. It put a stop, no doubt, to their ancient sport of "head hunting," but as the hunters generally lost their heads in turn, when the hunted retaliated, the deprivation was soon accepted as a change for the better. Mat Salleh, however, doggedly stood out for continuity of custom in this and all other respects, and the Chartered Company had nothing for it but either to make an end of the impracticable chief or to have its beneficent work indefinitely delayed. There could be but one ending to such an unequal dispute. Mat Salleh and his gang met with the fate they had challenged, and "Pax Britannica" now reigns in North Borneo, with every likelihood of its undisturbed continuance. It is fortunate for our possessions in this part of the world that, just at this critical "parting of the way," they should have received as Governor one of the ablest of our Eastern administrators, in the person of Mr. Hugh Charles Clifford. With large experience in countries similarly circumstanced to North Borneo, Mr. Clifford will bring to his new sphere for work much of knowledge essential for its successful accomplishment. This seems good reason, therefore, to anticipate that the economic and industrial progress already achieved by the company will not only continue, but march at still quicker pace. With a wonderfully rich soil and considerable wealth in minerals, including gold, copper, and coal, the little State only requires good, strong government to insure a very large measure of prosperity. Every recent year has witnessed a substantial increase of both imports and exports. Already three-quarters of a million acres are under profitable cultivation, and Mr. Clifford, at the head of affairs and Mat Salleh's successor, list, it is a safe prophecy that British capital will be more and more attracted to a dependency offering such promising openings for its employment.

For the Missus and Kids.

Seldom or ever has there been presented a more brilliant spectacle than that which was presented, both behind and in front of the curtain, at Her Majesty's Theatre on 13th ult. The entertainment was that organised by Mrs. Arthur Paget and presented under the direction of Mr. Tree in aid of the widows and orphans of Her Majesty's Household troops. The performance commenced at nine o'clock with a series of tableaux entitled "A Dream of Fair Women." Then came "The Masque of War and Peace," written specially for the occasion by Mr. Louis N. Parker, with music composed by Mr. Hamish MacCunn, and lastly there was a grand patriotic picture of "Great Britain, her Colonies and Dependencies." The full bands of the 1st Life Guards, 2nd Life Guards, Royal Horse Guards Blue, Grenadier Guards, Scots Guards, and Coldstream Guards played a stirring march, composed and conducted by Sir Arthur Sullivan. At the end of the Masque Mr. Tree came before the curtain and briefly announced that the receipts from the evening's performance would amount to more than £6,000. This is a record for receipts at any theatrical performance. And as to the performance itself it was given by amateurs who do not need the criticism that is usually meted out to amateurs. One and all, they were excellent. And the scene in the auditorium was not less brilliant than that on the stage. A Royal party, headed by the Prince and Princess of Wales, occupied the front row of the stalls, and every available seat in the house and all the standing room was occupied. The entire entertainment was a brilliant success, and all those who gave their services for the good of the cause are to be heartily congratulated.

Russia and Persia.

The Russian Government continues to publish, through the medium of the German journals, the views it desires Europe to adopt as regards the situation in Persia. The St. Petersburg Correspondent of the *Tagblatt*, for instance, has received an account of a report recently delivered to the Russian War Minister by a Russian officer serving at Tehran as instructor in the Persian army. The officer is stated to have informed the Minister that the most intense discontent exists throughout Persia with the present Government. House and the standing room was occupied. The entire entertainment was a brilliant success, and all those who gave their services for the good of the cause are to be heartily congratulated.

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finished as far as Port Arthur by 1901, the whole line being possibly ready for traffic in 1902. The terms agreed upon by the Russo-Chinese Bank with the Chinese Government are that the Chinese Government may purchase the line, thirty-six years after it has been opened to traffic, by paying the cost of construction, together with interest, or it may take possession, free of cost, after the line has been worked for thirty years by Russia. The railway will consist of a main line beginning at the Trans-Baikal frontier, cutting through Manchuria and running out to the Ussuri territory; and of a branch line to Port Arthur, beginning at the intersection of the main line by the River Sungari, at Charbin. The main line has an estimated length of 1,440 versts, and the South Manchurian branch line, running to Port Arthur, 980 versts; a total length of 2,420 versts. All the material for constructing the line is made in Russia, and sent out by the steamers of the Volunteer Fleet. The material for the main line is unshipped at Wladivostok, whence it is transported by railway to Chabarovsk, or to the station of Iman, and thence by the railway company's steamers along the Sungari to Charbin. The material for the South Manchurian line is unshipped at Port Arthur. For transport purposes, twenty-six steamers and forty iron ferry boats, each capable of carrying 25,000 pounds, have been purchased. Last autumn the rails were laid along a distance of 600 versts. Fifty locomotives and 1,000 waggons and platforms are being used for transport purposes.

Russia and China.

The *Rosier* regards the retrograde policy adopted by the Dowager-Empress of China, a menace to the safety of the Manchurian Railway and in general to the enormous interests of Russia in the Celestial Empire, and holds that the Russian Government should consequently take measures to safeguard its interests. The most practical of the measures to be taken for that end would be, according to the *Rosier*, for Russia to annex purely and simply Manchuria and the Liaotung Peninsula, instead of being content with those places remaining spheres of influence. The journal adds that the present moment is peculiarly favourable for the annexation, as no protest is to be feared from France, being an ally of Russia, nor from Great Britain, which is at present paralysed by the South African war, nor from Germany, which is less than ever disposed to stand in the way of Russia, nor, in the last case, from Japan, which is already sufficiently indemnified in Korea, with the assent of Russia. The *Rosier* goes on to say that as far as China is concerned, it is for her own interests to be in agreement with Russia, and to acquiesce in her demands. The journal concludes by saying that the very basis of a wise policy consists in knowing how to profit by circumstances and now or never is the time for Russia to profit.

The Correspondent of the *Times* at St. Petersburg, wrote on Feb. 6:—

I may mention that the Russo-Chinese Bank is already extending its activity to Mongolia, which, being situated north of the Great Wall and pursuant to the reference to that boundary in the Anglo-Russian Agreement, is considered to be as much a part of Russia's recognised and exclusive sphere of influence as the province of Manchuria. The predominance of Russia in Mongolia, however, where Chinese authority is little else than a shadow, has been a patent fact for years. The late General Prebelsky, with his numerous armed expeditions into that country, quite overcame both the Chinese and the nomads, and after distributing everywhere portraits of the Russian Imperial family he declared that the summons of a single Cossack was sufficient to bring the whole population down on their knees before the Great White Tsar. The Russian business in Mongolia is that of gold-mining, and Russian experts who have lately been prospecting state that the precious metal is to be found in very large quantities. Before many more years have passed the Russian plans in this region may surprise incredulous persons like those who scorned the warning of approaching events in China uttered from St. Petersburg before even the China-Japanese War had come to a close.

The great meeting of representative Kirghiz and traders from Chinese Mongolia and Russian Siberia, a curious assembly that now takes place every five years, has recently been held on the Russian frontier of the Seven River province under the presidency of the Russian Consul of Chuguchak. There was a numerous attendance on this occasion of the headmen of the tribes of the borderland of Russia and China, the subjects of both Empires, and traders from the nearest towns. Many speeches were made and all disputes and quarrels amicably settled.

THE "KOWSHING" CLAIM.**TO BE REFERRED TO ARBITRATION.**

In the House of Commons on the 8th ultimo, Mr. Provand asked the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether he would state what was the present position of the negotiations for the settlement by arbitration of the claims made by Her Majesty's Government on the Chinese Government more than five years ago for compensation to the owners of the British steamer *Kowshing*, and to the families of British subjects who lost their lives by the sinking of that vessel.

Mr. Brodick: It has now been arranged between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of China that the case of the *Kowshing* should be referred to the arbitration of a foreign jurist.

THE MAT SALLEH AFFAIRS.**QUESTION IN PARLIAMENT.**

In the House of Commons, on the 13th ult., Mr. W. A. Mackenzie asked the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs if he would state the nature of the differences which had arisen between the native population and the Chartered Company of British North Borneo; had any efforts been made by the British North Borneo Company to discuss the grievances of the natives with a view to an amicable settlement; as an previous occasion when Mat Salleh delivered his sword to Mr. Cowie, the manager of the British North Borneo Company would he state the nature of the expedition sent against Mat Salleh and his followers; and whether the expenses would be charged to the British taxpayer—or to the British North Borneo Company.

Mr. Brodick: No difference has arisen, so far as Her Majesty's Government are concerned, between the British North Borneo Company and the native population in the Company's territory, except in the case of Mat Salleh and his immediate followers. Every effort was made by the officers of the Company to enter into communication with Mat Salleh, but he declined to respond; and two of the company's messengers, who were conveying a friendly message to him, were murdered by his followers. The Expedition against Mat Salleh was composed of about 150 men of the Company's Police, and the whole cost will be borne by the Company.

WAR NEWS BY WIRE.**The Capture of Cronje.**

LONDON, February 28th.

On the evening of Majuba day it became apparent to Lord Roberts that the discontent among General Cronje's troops, owing to the discord among their leaders, was rapidly increasing. He determined after a council of war to try and bring matters to a crisis that night by increasing the pressure on the beleaguered force. A night attack was planned and the honour of carrying it to a successful issue was entrusted to the brave Canadians, whose gallant assault had gone so near capture early in the week. They were to be supported by the Gordons and Shropshire, but they were to lead the van. The attack was delivered with splendid dash some time after midnight. By dint of admirable scouting the Canadians got within eighty yards of the trenches and opened a galling rifle fire on the enemy, who were completely taken by surprise. The attack was on the point of being sent home when the enemy held out a flag of truce, which was immediately followed by a letter of unconditional surrender. The messenger was conveyed to Lord Roberts's camp at Paardeberg, twelve miles distant from the front. He was told in reply, by the British commander-in-chief, that no negotiations could be entered into unless General Cronje presented himself in the camp. The Boer commander, accompanied by his aide-de-camp and his secretary, arrived at 7 o'clock and the terms of surrender were arranged. The scene was a memorable one.

Reuter, writing from Paardeberg, says: On their meeting, Lord Roberts and Gen. Cronje exchanged salutes, and upon Gen. Cronje's mounting Lord Roberts shook hands with him saying, "You were made a gallant defence, Sir." Refreshments were then ordered and conversation ensued. 170 wounded Boers have been brought to the British Hospital near Paardeberg, many of them pitifully neglected.

The *Daily Telegraph* states that the Kaiser and King Humbert congratulated the Queen on the Paardeberg victory.

At Ladysmith.

On Saturday last heavy fighting, in which General Buller's brigade was chiefly concerned, took place at Pieter's Hill near Ladysmith. The Inniskillings led a night attack but were met by a tremendous fire from the enemy's trenches. The regiment was nearly cut up and lost no fewer than fourteen officers. The roll call, after the attack, showed that they had got mixed with some of the Dublin and Connaught Rangers and only five officers and 400 men answered. The Infantry entrenched half way up the hill during the night and made a determined attempt, but found the Boers on the alert.

General Buller afterwards carried Pieter's Hill and the enemy's main position, taking sixty prisoners. The Queen called to General Buller: "I have heard with deepest concern the heavy losses of my brave Irish soldiers" and she expressed admiration for their splendid fighting qualities.

Cronje's Surrender.

General Pretorius, with an A. D. C., escorted General Cronje and his Secretary from the Boer laager to the British camp. The Seaforths were formed up in double line on guard. General Cronje's demeanour was quiet and dignified. He was dressed in mufli with an orange ribbon in his hat. General Cronje conversed some time with Lord Roberts, the former Secretary acting as interpreter. General Cronje expressed regret at his inability longer to defend his position. The *Morning Post* says our shell fire had little effect on the Boer laager. In the final assault the Canadians lost ten killed and thirty wounded. It is reported that Lord Kitchener has gone to Arundel to watch the enemy retreating on Norval's Pont.

Casualties.

The casualties at Paardeberg include:—*Killed*: Col. J. O. Hannan, *Wounded*: Colonel I. J. B. Sandford, 1st Welsh Regiment; Captain O. A. Taylor, 1st West Riding; Lieut. F. H. Stapleton, 1st Oxford; Captain T. W. Milward, 1st Essex. *Missing*: Major F. J. Eveleigh (2nd in command), Oxford. General Buller's casualties on the 27th February were:—*Killed*: South Lancashire Regiment—Colonel W. McCarthy-O'Leary. Royal Scots Fusiliers—Captain V. Lewis, Captain H. S. Sykes, and Lieut. F. J. T. U. Simpson. Royal Warwickshire Regiment—Lieut. H. L. Mourlymout, Royal Irish Fusiliers—Lieut. C. J. Daly. *Wounded*: Royal Scots Fusiliers—Colonel E. E. Carr, Captain C. P. A. Hull, Captain E. E. Blaine, Lieut. C. H. I. Jackson, and Lieut. H. C. Fraser. Royal Irish Fusiliers—Major F. F. Hill, Lieut. A. G. Knecker, Lieut. A. Hamilton, Lieut. V. H. Kavanagh. South Lancashire Regiment—Major T. Lamb. West Yorkshire Regiment—Captain C. Mansell-Jones. Capt. C. E. B. Tew, Lieut. H. P. Sperry, Lieut. A. M. Royall. *Dorsetshire Regiment*—Lieut. H. C. Tennell, V. C. *Royal Lancaster Regiment*—Lieut. W. D. Palmer, V. C. *Devonshire Regiment*—Lieut. W. Grover and Lieut. E. A. P. Vaughan. *Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers*—Lieut. Steward. *Rifle Brigade*: Capt. S. E. Long and Lieut. J. L. Buxton. *Royal Fusiliers*—Lieut. H. B. G. Macartney. *Royal Dublin Fusiliers*—Lieut. J. McD. Haskard and Lieut. Bradford.

At Kimberley.

Lord Roberts telegraphs from Osofontein on the 2nd and 3rd ult. that he has just returned from a hurried visit to Kimberley. He is much gratified by the arrangements made for the comfort of the sick and wounded. I was struck with the friendly manner in which the Boers and our men chatted together and was delighted to see our soldiers sharing their rations with the Boer prisoners.

RUSSIAN AND GERMAN CONCESSIONS IN THE EAST.

On 13th ultimo, Mr. J. M. Maclean asked the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs "if the attention of Her Majesty's Government has been called to the action of Russia and Germany in constructing railways across the Asiatic Continent, and especially to the concession made by the Sultan of Turkey for a German line as far as the seaport of Bussorah in the Persian Gulf, and to the consolidation of the commercial and financial authority of Russia in Northern Persia, and what steps the Foreign Office is taking to maintain British interests in that part of the world, and to prevent the control of railways up to the Indian frontier from falling completely into the hands of foreign Powers." Mr. Brodick replied that the British Government are aware of the concession given by the Sultan of Turkey for a German line to the seaport of Bussorah, and of the progress of Russian railways in Asia. "If and when," he added, "British interests are affected Her Majesty's Government will take whatever steps are necessary to maintain them."

SHIPPING REPORTS.

Captain G. Blackland, of the steamship *Diamante*, from Manila, reports—Light N.E. winds, 19° W., fresh to strong N.E. winds.

Captain F. Schulz, of the steamship *Loongmoon*, from Shanghai, reports—Strong N. and N.E. winds, heavy sea, clear weather, misty overland from port to port.

NOTANDA.**CALENDAR.**

MARCH.
Meteorological means based on ten years' observations to 1899.
Barometer..... 30.141
Thermometer..... 57.3
Humidity..... 79.0
Rainfall..... 1.76

TO-DAY.

WEATHER REPORT.
On date at 10 a.m. On date at 4 p.m.
Barometer..... 30.05 30.03
Temperature..... 63 63
Humidity..... 94 93
Rainfall..... 0.01 0.01

TO-DAY.

[Saturday, 17th March, 1900.
Chinese—17th of 2nd moon of 26th year of Kwang-su.
Sun—Rises..... 6hr. 9min.
Sets..... 6hr. 9min.
High water—Morning..... 11hr. 10min.
Afternoon..... 5hr. 25min.
Low water—Morning..... 5hr. 0min.
Afternoon..... 5hr. 12min.

ANNIVERSARIES.

1794—Lord Macartney's Embassy left China.
1849—Death of William II., King of the Netherlands.
1866—The *Napoleon* cannon burnt at sea by cooies.
1886—Loss of the s.s. *Breconshire* off White Rocks.
1889—Fire at Foochow; over 200 houses destroyed.
1896—The Hongkong Regiment paraded before Lord Spencer.
1896—Revs. Maus and Diehl attacked and robbed by Chinese pirates near Tung-kun.

TO-MORROW.

Sunday, 18th March, 1900.
Chinese—18th of 2nd moon of 26th year of Kwang-su.
Sun—Rises..... 6hr. 5min.
Sets..... 6hr. 9min.
High water—Morning..... 11hr. 5min.
Afternoon..... 5hr. 30min.
Low water—Morning..... 5hr. 25min.
Afternoon..... 5hr. 30min.

ANNIVERSARIES.

1839—Edict of Commissioner Lin calling for the surrender of all opium in Canton.
1841—Canton factories occupied by British troops.
1848—Princess Louise born.
1869—Suez Canal opened.
1871—Communist revolt in Paris; second siege commenced.
1891—Chun King opened to foreign trade.
1897—The Admirals proclaimed the autonomy of Crete.
1898—American Mission destroyed at Chung-king.

AGENDA.

TO-DAY.
(St. Patrick's Day.)
Cargo ex *Glenariff* subject to rent.
Cargo ex *Alphonse* subject to rent.
9 p.m.—A. D. C. Dance.

TO-MORROW.

"D" & "E" Co.'s H. K. V. C. Rifle Competition.
CHURCH SERVICES.
St. John's Cathedral—Communion, 7 a.m., Matins, 9 a.m., Evensong, 6.45 p.m.
Roman Catholic Cathedral—Mass at 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m., and 9.30 a.m. Benediction, 5 p.m.
Union Church—Services, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.
German Bethesda Chapel, West Point—Morning Service, 11 a.m.
St. Francis Church, Wanchai—Mass (Chin.), 6 a.m., (Port.), 7.30 a.m. Benediction, 5 p.m.
St. Joseph's Church, Garden Road—Morning Service (English), 9 a.m.
St. Anthony's Chapel, West Point—Mass, 8 a.m.
 Wesleyan Methodist Church—Services, 10.30 a.m. and 5.45 p.m.
St. Peter's Seamen's Church—11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

MONDAY, 19th.

11 a.m.—Time expires for receipt of tenders for specie for the Military Treasury.
9 p.m.—Mr. Henry Dallas' Company, "The Geisha" at the City Hall.

TUESDAY, 20th.

Daylight—T. K. K. steamer *Nippon Maru* leaves for San Francisco via Inland Sea of Japan and Honolulu.
2.30 p.m.—Public Auction sale of Household Furniture etc. at No. 5 & 7 Zetland Street by Messrs J. I. Remedios.
3 p.m.—D. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Arratoon Apar* leaves for the Straits.
C. N. steamer *Singkiang* leaves for Manila.
Cargo ex *Bingo Maru* subject to rent.
O. S. Co.'s steamer *Calchas* leaves for London via Suez Canal.
Cargo ex *Franz Ferdinand* subject to rent.

WEDNESDAY, 21st.

Noon—1 G. M. L. steamer *Stuttgart* leaves for Europe.
Noon—Cargo ex *Yangtze* subject to rent.
Divided warrants of the China Mutual Steam Navigation Co. Ltd. ready.
Noon—N. G. I. steamer *Blisago* leaves for Singapore, Penang and Bombay.

THURSDAY, 22nd.

Noon—First annual General Meeting of shareholders of the Queen Mines, Ltd.

FRIDAY, 23rd.

5.30 p.m.—An extraordinary Meeting of the H. K. C. C. at Pavilion.
C. N. Co.'s steamer *Kaifong* leaves for Cebu and Iloilo.

SATURDAY, 24th.

Noon—17th Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders of the China and Manila S. S. Co. Ltd., at the Co.'s Office, No. 9, Praya Central.
C. N. Co.'s steamer *Shangtung* leaves for Singapore, Samarang and Sourabaya.
(About) N. G. I. steamer *Braemar* leaves for Portland, Oregon.

SHIPPING AND MAIL NEWS.**MAILS DUE.**

American (*Rio de Janeiro*) 20th inst.
Canadian (*Empress of China*) 20th inst.
German (*Stuttgart*) 20th inst.
Indian (*Chelidra*) 20th inst.
German (*Weimar*) 22nd inst.
American (*Copile*) 22nd inst.
American (*America Maru*) 4th prox.
Tacoma (*Siam*) 5th prox.

The steamer *Tienstin*, left Singapore for this port to-day at 10 a.m.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Co.'s R.M.S. *Empress of Japan*, arrived at Shanghai to-day at 1 a.m. and leaves same day at 10 p.m. for Nagasaki, where she is due to arrive on Monday the 19th March at 7 a.m.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK RETURNS.

Ship	From	Arrived
<i>Isa de Cuba</i>	from Kowloon, Dock	
H.M.S. <i>Centurion</i>	"	"
H.M.S. <i>Phoenix</i>	"	"
<i>Shantung</i>	"	"
H.M.S. <i>Waterwitch</i>	"	"
<i>Hanoi</i>	"	"
<i>Kaifong</i>	"	"
U.S.S. <i>Monadnock</i>	"	"
<i>Sulberg</i>	"	"
<i>Don Juan d'Austria</i>	from Cosmopolitan	"
<i>Albatross</i>	"	"
<i>Peking</i>	"	"
<i>Enma Luyken</i>	"	"

Shipping.**Arrivals.**

DIAMANTE, British steamer, 1,225, G. T. Blackland, 16th Mar.—Manila 14th Mar. General—Shewan, Tones & Co.
LOONGMOON, German steamer, 1,245, F. Schulz, 17th Mar.—Shanghai 14th Mar. General—Siemens & Co.
CHINA, German steamer, 1,275, E. Schipper, 17th Mar.—Java 6th Mar. Sugar—Siemens & Co.

Clearances at the Harbour Office.

Amigo, German str., for Saigon.
Amiduzuru Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
Saikong, British str., for Samsui.
Haimun, British str., for Kelung.
Haidong, British str., for Swatow.
Aschaff, British str., for Saigon.
Takung, British str., for Bangkok.
Goodwin, British str., for Moji.
Chalchagua, British str., for Amoy.
Haiting, French str., for Hoihow.
Melpomene, Austrian str., for Amoy.
Siam, British str., for Swatow.
Kueiyang, British str., for Swatow.
Victoria, British str., for Whampoa.
Kwai Lum, British steam-launch, for Macao.
Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
Pak Kong, British str., for Canton.
Wuchow, British str., for Wuchow.

Intimations.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING will be held in the PAVILION, on FRIDAY, the 23rd March, at 5.30 P.M. BUSINESS:—Raising in the Ground. JAMES A. LOWSON, Hon. Sec.

Hongkong, 14th March, 1900. [333b]

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY LIMITED.

THE SEVENTEENTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the COMPANY'S OFFICE, No. 9, Praya Central, Victoria, on SATURDAY, the 24th March, 1900, at NOON, for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the General Managers for the year ending 31st December, 1899, declaring a Dividend and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 10th to the 24th instant, both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, 8th March, 1900. [333b]

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the OFFICE of the Company, on TUESDAY, the 27th day of March, at NOON, for the purpose of confirming the following Special Resolution which was passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders on the 7th instant.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION. That the Profits accrued to the Company from the issue of a Premium of the New Shares in the Company, authorised to be issued by the Special Resolution passed on the 6th, and confirmed on the 23rd day of April, 1889, amounting to the sum of \$1,250,000, and which was then carried, and is now standing, to the Credit of the Reserve Fund in pursuance of such Special Resolution, be capitalised and be applied in part payment of the CALL of \$50 per Share on all the Shares in the Company, to be made by the Board.

By Order of the Board, A. SHELTON HOOPER, Secretary.

Hongkong, 7th March, 1900. [297b]

HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE ORDINARY HALF-YEARLY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the COMPANY'S HOTEL, on TUESDAY, the 27th March, 1900, at NOON, for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts of the Company to the 31st December, 1899, with the Report of the Directors, and to discuss any Matters that may be competently brought before the Meeting.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 13th to 27th instant, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board, C. MOONEY, Secretary.

Hongkong, 1st March, 1900. [270b]

THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited, will be held at the COMPANY'S HOTEL, on TUESDAY, the 27th day of March, 1900, at 12.15 P.M.

To consider and if thought fit approve the draft New Regulations, which will be submitted to the Meeting and in the event of the approval thereof with or without modifications or alterations.

To consider and if thought fit to pass a Resolution to the effect "that the New Regulations already approved by this Meeting and for the purpose of identification subscribed by the Chairman thereof be and the same are hereby approved and that such Regulations be and the same are hereby adopted as the Regulations of the Company to the exclusion of all the existing Regulations thereof."

A copy of the proposed New Regulations may be seen at the Company's Office.

Should the above Resolution be passed by the required majority it will be submitted for confirmation as a Special Resolution to a Second Extraordinary Meeting which will be subsequently convened.

Dated the 1st day of March, 1900.

By Order of the Board, C. MOONEY, Secretary.

271b]

CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE TWENTY SECOND ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS of the Company will be held at the OFFICES of the General Agents, on THURSDAY, the 29th March, at 2 P.M. for the purpose of receiving their Report with a Statement of Accounts, ending to the 31st December, 1899.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from 16th to 29th instant, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., General Agents.

Hongkong, 9th March, 1900. [311b]

WANTED.

A COPY of the Local "HANSARD," 1891-2.

Address:— J. J. F. Office of This Paper

Hongkong, 10th March, 1900.

DART LOONG.

LADIES' DRAPERS, OUTFITTERS AND TAILORS.

51 & 53, WELLINGTON STREET.

LATEST STYLES in Ladies' Dress Materials direct from Manufacturers.

The Ladies' Tailoring Department is on the Premises and under the Superintendence of YUEN LEE.

Hongkong, 14th March, 1900. [335b]

LEVY HERMANOS.

DIAMOND MERCHANTS, JEWELLERS AND WATCHMAKERS.

Sole Agents in the East for the amalgamated CLEMENT, HUMBER and GRADATOR Co., Ltd., DUNLOP TYRES, BICYCLES, PRICE, \$160.

A special reliable Watch made for this Climate.

Quality A. \$16

Quality B. \$14

40, QUEEN'S ROAD, Watson's Building.

Mails.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

(THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.)



PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

STEAMERS.	DESTINATIONS.	SAILING DATES.
YAWATA MARU.....	NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKO.	SATURDAY, 24th March, at Noon.
A. E. Moses.....	HAMA	
SADO MARU.....	MARSEILLES, LONDON & ANTWERP, via SINGAPORE; PENANG, COLOMBO and PORT SAID.	TUESDAY, 27th March, at Daylight.
W. Thompson.....		
KAGOSHIMA MARU.....	MOJI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA.	TUESDAY, 27th March, at Noon.
R. Nunome.....		
HIROSHIMA MARU.....	BOMBAY, via SINGAPORE and COLOMBO.	FRIDAY, 30th March, at Noon.
S. Yoshizawa.....		
FUTAMI MARU.....	MANILA, THURSDAY ISLAND, TOWNSVILLE, BRISBANE, SYDNEY and MELBOURNE.	FRIDAY, 30th March, at 4 P.M.
J. Thom.....		

For further information as to Freight, Passage, Sailings, &c., apply at the Company's Local Branch Office at No. 7, Praya Central.

A. S. MIHARA, Manager.

Hongkong, 14th March, 1900. [6]

NORDEUTSCHER LLOYD.



HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE.

(Freight Service.) (Freight Service.) (Taking Cargo at through Rates to ANTWERP, AMSTERDAM, ROTTERDAM, LISBON, OPORTO, LONDON, LIVERPOOL, GLASGOW, TRIESTE, GENOA, PORTS IN THE LEVANT; BLACK SEA and BALTIC PORTS; NORTH and SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS.)

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

STEAMERS.	DESTINATIONS.	SAILING DATES.
*SAVOIA.....	HAYRE and HAMBURG.	20th March. Freight and Passage.
Jäger.....	(LONDON with transshipment in HAMBURG) NEW YORK.	24th March. Freight.
ASTORIA.....	(via SUEZ CANAL.)	
Hildebrandt.....	HAYRE and HAMBURG.	About 31st March. Freight.
SAXONIA.....	(LONDON with transshipment in HAMBURG)	
Krech.....	HAYRE and HAMBURG.	About 6th April. Freight and Passage.
HEIDELBERG.....	(LONDON with transshipment in HAMBURG)	
Zachariae.....	HAYRE and HAMBURG.	About 20th April. Freight and Passage.
SIBIRIA.....	(LONDON with transshipment in HAMBURG)	
Braun.....		

* These Steamers have Superior Accommodation for Passengers and carry a Doctor and a Stewardess.

For further Particulars as to Freight, Passage, &c., apply to CARLOWITZ & Co., Agents.

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TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

TO SAN FRANCISCO, VIA INLAND SEA OF JAPAN AND HONOLULU.

STEAMERS.	DESTINATIONS.	SAILING DATES.
NIPPON MARU (via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama & Honolulu)		Tuesday, 20th March, at Daylight.
AMERICA MARU (via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama & Honolulu)		Saturday, 14th April, at Noon.
HONGKONG MARU (via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama & Honolulu)		Tuesday, 8th May, at Noon.

THE Steamship "NIPPON MARU," will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, via SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, INLAND SEA, YOKOHAMA and HONOLULU, on TUESDAY, the 20th March, at Daylight, taking Freight and Passengers for Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Steamers of this line pass through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, and call at Honolulu, and passengers are allowed to break their journey at any point en route.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of steamers, and to the principal cities of the United States or Canada. Rates may be obtained on application.

Passengers holding through ORDERS TO EUROPE have the choice of Overland Rail routes from San Francisco including the SOUTHERN PACIFIC, CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC, DENVER and RIO GRANDE, and NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAYS; also the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY on payment of \$4 in addition to the regular tariff rate.

Passengers holding orders for OVERLAND CITIES in the United States have between San Francisco and Chicago, the option of the SOUTHERN PACIFIC, CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC, DENVER and RIO GRANDE, and other direct connecting Railways and from Chicago to destination the choice of direct lines.

Particulars of the various routes can be had on application.

Special rates (first class only) are granted to Missionaries, members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic, and Civil Services, to European Officials in the service of China and Japan, and to Government officials and their families.

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and Inland Cities of the United States, via Overland Railway, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

* Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. the day previous to sailing. Parcel Packages will be received at Office until 5 P.M. same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to points beyond San Francisco in the United States should be sent to the Company's Office in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, Queen's Building.

C. L. GORHAM, Acting Agent.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1900. [7]

U.S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.

VIA INLAND SEA OF JAPAN AND HONOLULU.

STEAMERS.	DESTINATIONS.	SAILING DATES.
CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO (via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama and Honolulu)		Tuesday, 27th March, at Noon.
CITY OF Peking (via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama and Honolulu)		Saturday, 21st April, at Noon.
China (via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama and Honolulu)		Tuesday, 16th May, at Noon.

THE U. S. M. Steamship "CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO," will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, via SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, INLAND SEA, YOKOHAMA and HONOLULU, on TUESDAY, the 27th instant, at Noon, taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Steamers of this line pass through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, and call at Honolulu, and passengers are allowed to break their journey at any point en route.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers, and to the principal cities of the United States of Canada. Rates may be obtained on application.

Passengers holding through ORDERS TO EUROPE have the choice of Overland Rail Routes from San Francisco, including the SOUTHERN PACIFIC, CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC, DENVER and RIO GRANDE, and NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAYS; also the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY on payment of \$4 in addition to the regular tariff rate.

Passengers holding Orders FOR OVERLAND CITIES in the United States have between San Francisco and Chicago, the option of the SOUTHERN PACIFIC, CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC, DENVER and RIO GRANDE, and other direct connecting Railways and from Chicago to destination the choice of direct lines.

Particulars of the various routes can be had on application.

Special rates (first class only) are granted to Missionaries, members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic, and Civil Service, to European Officials in the service of China and Japan, and to Government officials and their families.

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and Inland Cities of the United States, via Overland Railway, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

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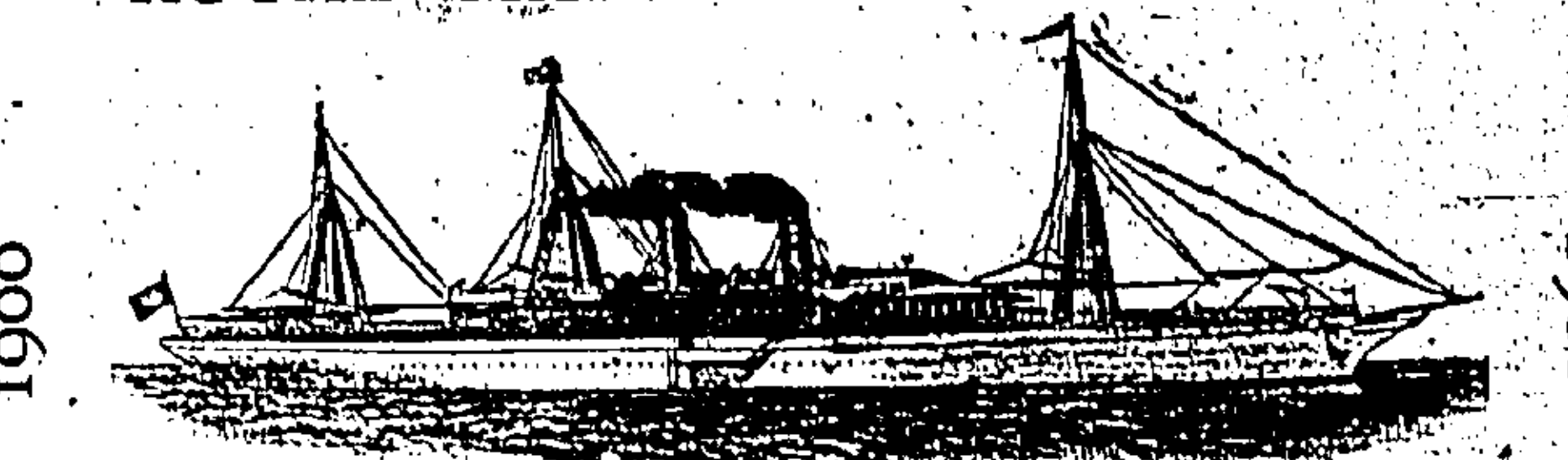
For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, Queen's Building.

C. L. GORHAM, Acting Agent.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1900. [7]

Mails.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COY.'S ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.



SAFETY. SPEED. PUNCTUALITY.

THE FAST ROUTE BETWEEN CHINA, JAPAN AND EUROPE, VIA CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.

(CALLING AT SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, YOKOHAMA & VICTORIA, B.C.)

Twin Screw Steamships—6,000 Tons—10,000 Horse Power—Speed 19 knots.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

EMPRESS OF CHINA...Comdr. R. Archibald, R.N.R...WEDNESDAY, 4th April.

EMPRESS OF INDIA...Comdr. O. P. Marshall, R.N.R...WEDNESDAY, 25th April.

EMPRESS OF JAPAN...Comdr. Geo. A. Lee, R.N.R...WEDNESDAY, 16th May.

THE magnificent Twin-screw Steamships of this Line pass through the famous INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, and usually make the voyage YOKOHAMA TO VANCOUVER (B.C.) in 12 DAYS, saving THREE DAYS to a WEEK in the Trans-Pacific journey, and make connection at Vancouver with the PALATIAL TRANS-CONTINENTAL TRAINS of the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY which leave daily, and cross the Continent FROM THE PACIFIC TO THE ATLANTIC WITHOUT CHANGE. Close connection is made at Montreal, Quebec, Halifax-New York and Boston with all Trans-Atlantic Lines, which passengers to Great Britain and the Continent are given choice of.

Passengers Booked through to all principal points and AROUND THE WORLD. Return tickets at various points at reduced rates, Good for 4, 6, 9 and 12 months.

SPECIAL RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries; Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China and Japan Governments.

The attractive features of the Company's route embrace its PALATIAL STEAMSHIPS, (second to none in the World), the LUXURIANCE OF ITS TRANS-CONTINENTAL TRAINS (the Company having received the highest award for same at recent Chicago World's Exhibition), and the diversity of MAGNIFICENT MOUNTAIN AND LAKE SCENERY through which the Railway passes.

THE DINING CARS and MOUNTAIN HOTELS of this route are owned and operated by the Company, and their appointments and Cuisine are unexcelled.

For further information, Maps, Guide, Books, Rates of Passage, &c., apply to D. E. BROWN, General Agent, Pender's Street. [3]

Hongkong, 14th March, 1900.

NORTHERN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP COMPANIES.

VIA SHANGHAI, INLAND SEA, KOBE, AND YOKOHAMA.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

FOR VICTORIA, B.C., AND TACOMA, IN CONNECTION WITH NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO.

Olympia.....2,337 J. Truebridge Mar. 31

Sikh.....2,747 J. Rowley Apr. 14

Glenogle.....3,759 W. Frakes Apr. 24

ALSO FOR PORTLAND, OREGON, IN CONNECTION WITH OREGON RAILROAD AND NAVIGATION COMPANY.

Braemar.....3,601 W. Watt Mar. 24

Monmouthshire.....2,874 W. A. Evans May 19

Braemar.....3,601 W. Watt June 9

Monmouthshire.....2,874 W. A. Evans Aug. 4

THE attention of Passengers is directed to the very cheap rates offered by the Line, HONGKONG TO LONDON £47.

Excellent accommodation. First-class Tables. DOCTOR and STEWARDESSE carried.

HONGKONG TO NEW YORK £41.

The Railroad travelling is second to none on the American Continent. Magnificent Scenery of the ROCKY and CASCADE MOUNTAINS. The YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK route. Passengers to EUROPE may proceed by one of the first class ATLANTIC MAIL LINES.

HONGKONG TO TACOMA £28.

Rates of Passage to other Points on application.

Special rates allowed to members of Government Services.

Through Bills of Lading issued to Pacific Coast Ports, and to Canadian and United States Ports.

Consular Invoices of Goods for United States Ports should be in duplicate, and one copy must be sent forward by the steamer to the Freight Agent, Tacoma, Wash., or Portland, Or. (whichever may be the destination of the Steamer).

Parcels must be sent to our Office (with address marked in full) by 5 P.M., on the day previous to sailing.

For further information apply to DODWELL & CO., LIMITED, General Agents.

Hongkong, 12th March, 1900. [4]

CALIFORNIA AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE ATCHESON TOPEKA & SANTA FE RAILROAD CO.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG TO SAN DIEGO AND SAN FRANCISCO, VIA INLAND SEA OF JAPAN AND HONOLULU.

Taking Cargo and Passengers to JAPAN PORTS, and HONOLULU, THE UNITED STATES, &c.

Lady Joyce.....3,194 on Mar. 31

Strathgyle.....5,023 about April 14

Carlisle City.....3,002 about April 28

Carmarthenshire.....2,929 about May 12

Belgian King.....3,379 about May 26

Thyra.....3,466 about June 9

THE Steamship "LADY JOICEY," will be despatched for SAN DIEGO and SAN FRANCISCO, via KOBE, YOKOHAMA & HONOLULU, on SATURDAY, the 31st instant.

Through Bills of Lading issued to any point in the United States.

Cargo will be received on board until 5 P.M. the day previous to sailing. Parcel packages will be received at the OFFICE until the same time. All parcels should be marked to address in full. Value of same is required.

Consular Invoices, to accompany cargo destined to points beyond San Diego, should be sent to the Company's Office, addressed to the Collector of Customs, San Diego.

For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, China and Japan.

Hongkong, 16th March, 1900. [6]

Consignees.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM KOBE.

THE Steamship "FRANZ FERDINAND," having arrived Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, whence delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Claims must be sent in to the office of the Undersigned before Noon on the 20th instant, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance has been effected, and any Goods remaining in the Godowns after the 20th instant, will be subject to rent.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by SANDER, WIELER & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 13th March, 1900. [281b]

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM TRIESTE, FIUME, PORT SAID, ADEN, KARACHI, BOMBAY, COLOMBO, PENANG & SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship "MELFOMENE," having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, whence delivery may be obtained.

This vessel brings Cargo.— From Trieste, ex S.S. *Atlantico* transhipped at Singapore.

From Venice, ex S.S. *Massimiliano & Carlotta* transhipped at Trieste.

Optional Cargo will be discharged here. No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all claims must be sent in to the Office of the Undersigned before Noon on the 17th instant, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance has been effected, and any Goods remaining in the Godowns after the 17th instant, will be subject to rent.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by SANDER, WIELER & Co., Agents.

THE CHARGE.

BY JAMES FERDU.

(Specially written for the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

How long we were kept sitting in our saddles there I don't know. All round one heard the jingling of harness and bridles as the nags flung up their heads and fretted at the long walls, and the slow creak and grunt of the saddles as the weary riders shifted in their seats.

Alongside of me a trooper of B. Company was glaring over the plain at the enemy, keeping up a continuous stream of oaths against them and all belonging to them, while another was talking to his troop-horse as he caressed his neck. "If anyone dares to so much as have a whack at you, I'll be blowing him, knock his blooming head off. I will so help me, so don't you mind, old man!" He scowled round defiantly at the black masses of the enemy's infantry on the verge of the plains.

An officer swore softly under his breath as his horse sidled a little into the ranks.

As we looked out across the middle distance we saw our infantry advancing to the attack. A shiver of excitement settled down through the ranks, seeking up file after file and then the wind brought the sound of their fire, where we were, but they were soon hidden by the smoke-drifts of their rifles. Now and again a figure or so would stand out for a moment and then disappear again in a shroud of white smoke. It seemed ages for us waiting there in reserve—listening and watching ignorant of how the action was going.

Once we saw a huddled mass of infantry, break and scatter towards our lines. A murmur of a shock through our ranks and we listened yet more eagerly to the hoarse note of the battle raving somewhere behind the thick smoke.

We were, one and all, chafing at the delays, when we got our orders to advance across the plain and charge the left flank of the enemy. A sigh of contentment rippled over the whole of us, and the men began to settle themselves, and the ranks lightened. The officer loosened his sword in its scabbard, and I could see him smiling to himself.

"At the word of command we all moved forward from our cover and reached the open plain. As we did so a shell went over our heads with an angry sound. Then for the first time I began to think of what war meant, and wounds and the black horrors of the battle field by night. I felt angry with the men who were where across the plain were throwing these shells, simply to prevent me getting back to England, to my mother's cottage, and the girl I had left behind me. It seemed to select my particular squadron for a mark.

I felt I would like to give up the game, for cold fear was in my bones, but the troop all round me kept me steady. Another shell plunged into the ground ahead of us and flicked up a sheet of sand in our faces. We covered our faces, but it did not explode, and in another minute had got behind us.

Now the order was given to "Trot out," followed in quick succession by the word to "Canter." We were covering the distance between us and the enemy at a good rate now. The horse of a rear file near me, stumbled and fell, bringing the rider down. He was a recruit or little more, and he gazed over his saddle at the troop as it went, with a look of horror by changing to surprise as the death, that seemed inevitable, swept by on either side of him. Each horse swerved as it reached him and he lay there touched.

We now opened out, for the bullets of the infantry were slipping everywhere in our ranks. My right hand file suddenly dropped his reins, swayed unevenly in his seat and then clutched his rein again wildly, his face set in a horrid grin of pain and rage. His horse, checked in its stride by the sudden pull on the rein, stepped short and jerked its head uneasily and he dropped limply from the saddle and trailed along the ground with one foot caught in the stirrup.

I was in a mad rage and fury to reach the men who were shooting at us. When the word came to "Charge" I set my spurs in my horse's side and he leapt forward like a mad thing. My only desire was to cover the ground as quickly as possible, and not continue to be the target for men I could not reach; the noise of the firing deafened me. With uplifted sword I dashed on. We were nearly up to the front rank of the enemy now and I could make out the faces of some caked with blood and sweat and the black of flying powder grime. Suddenly a dull numb pain shot through my upraised arm and in vague wonder I saw my sword falling from my grasp. A scream of pain from my horse, and I felt her falling beneath me. A heavy sickening blow across my back and I remembered nothing more.

When I came to myself evening was fast closing over the plains. Everywhere round me lay dead and wounded men. I tried to rise, but could only lift my head and look about me. My arm too, hung powerless by my side. Near me lay my poor old mare, and I saw she was fast going out. A sob caught in my throat as I saw her eyes grow fixed, her breathing labour and stop. I thought of the many times the gallant brute had carried me, and I could have wept at losing my last friend, and the only remaining tie with home and country.

A little further on a horse with its back broken screamed out in its pain, beating the earth with its hoofs, its eyes staring round in a great despair. Here a heavy rain began to pour upon the ground, and there a tangled heap of men and arms told of a last fierce stand on the part of the infantry.

As the evening cold crept about my arm began to throb and ache. It seemed to have grown suddenly twice its natural weight, and prodigiously heavy. I was conscious, too, of being hungry and thirsty. I dared not shift my position, for every time I moved the pain in my back became unbearable.

The chill wind of evening wandered fitfully over the scene, the moon low-lament. Would the darkness never come? Was I to lie here to die of cold and starvation on the field. Was I to escape death in action only to lie and wait to come nearer and nearer like the terror of a nightmare? A huge sense of impotence against fate, the ordering of the world, and against my own comrades filled me with wild fury.

Somewhere on the plain lights were moving and stopping, till to my watching eyes they grew blurred and indistinct. Would none ever come to my aid? I began to think Fate had had some grudge against me personally, and would not allow me to be found and rescued. I felt I could cry and scream with the anger of my drawn perves.

At last the lights seemed nearer to me. My eyes tried to part the thick darkness. Yes... they certainly were coming my way. Very slowly, but still coming. I dared not take my eyes off them lest by so doing I should lose sight of the change, as they had done when they moved away. They were still a long way off. An incantation movement brought me and acute twinge of pain. I watched them with a tenseness of yearning that was itself a pain. I called out, but my lips were dry and parched. The words seemed to clot upon my tongue—my voice sounded then and impotent.

The lights were moving steadily in my direction now. I must do something to attract their attention, for the pain of my arm was increasing, and threatened at times to rob me of my senses. I called out again as loudly as I could. "Here, help!... On they came at the same pace as before. I called again. They stopped and I felt rather than saw that the man with the lantern held it up and threw the light in my direction. My consciousness seemed fast draining from me. I felt I must make a last effort to guide them to me, before the moving blackness that seemed closing in on my senses enveloped me entirely.

They had apparently heard my last cry and were coming more quickly towards me, scanning every face they passed by the light of their lantern. A fearful anger seized me that some other man would be found by them, and taken for the owner of the voice they heard, while I was left to the cold despair of the night on the deserted field. At any rate I must make them hear and come to my aid.

I raised myself on my sound arm and lifted myself as well as I was able. I gathered all my strength for one last appeal for aid and help. As I raised my body for the effort an agonising pain shot through my back and I felt consciousness leave me as I fell sliding down against the body of my old mare.

They told me, I was quite delirious when they found me next morning. The doctors said my back was broken, as well as my arm. As soon as they had tinkered me up enough to stand the journey, I was sent home. "Oh, yes, I married 'The girl I left behind me'." She said she only loved me more now I was a cripple, because it made me dependent on her. But that's a woman's way.

WOUNDS IN WAR.

Writing from the auxiliary hospital at Natal, of the Escourt Armoured train incident, a private in the Durban Light Infantry, says: "There are no bones smashed in my foot, but three of my toes are quite dead owing to the nerves being destroyed. My throat bothers me when swallowing, and the doctor seems anxious about it. It was a marvellous escape. Dr. Halse would not believe I could see him, and when he saw me, he remarked, 'You should be dead.' However, I am not dead, and hope to get my revenge before it is all over. I cannot understand yet how any of us got back at all. I got the shot in the foot shortly after we left the truck, so could do little but lie still and die. Just as the engine was getting clear, I was making for it, to try and get in, but got shot through the throat. I know enough of first aid to know that there is a big artery there, and from the way the blood gushed out I thought it was all over with me, but to my intense relief I found that, after lying still for some time, the bleeding was stopped. The engine was passing at the time. I got hold of the side, and hung on it for 60 yards. I was just on the point of falling off when the engine stopped. I got on the tender side, and stood on the 4th ledge, with my foot dangling, till we got to Endandale, where I got on the cab. It was pouring with rain all the way back, and I was chilled through. My foot seemed to weigh 200 lbs. As I was, I could not help thinking how fortunate I was compared to the poor fellows left behind, many of them wounded, and all of them certain of Pretoria."

THE TRUTH ABOUT CHAMPAGNE.

It is somewhat disconcerting to learn, on the authority of a correspondent of the *Scientific American*, that there is more champagne drunk in one year than the champagne district produces in seven, and it is interesting to note which countries take most of the genuine article. Last year the champagne district exported 19,630,000 litres, valued at 91,327,552 francs. England bought more than half the total. Belgium followed a long way after with 2,778,000 litres, Germany with 1,859,000, and the United States with 1,419,000 litres. Russia was satisfied with 928,000 litres. It would be interesting to know where the spurious six-sevenths of the champagne supply is made, and of what the constituents are composed.

THE FORTUNE TELLERS OF PARIS.

Few people would suspect what an extraordinary number of fortune-tellers drive a thriving trade in Paris. One of the principal functionaries at the Prefecture of Police informed me recently that his department had the names and addresses of over two thousand persons who make their living and in many cases an excellent living, by the most elementary and common of all the forms of the pseudo-science of divination, by telling fortunes from cards. There are other varieties of fortune-tellers galore; those who predict the future from a handful of pins thrown at hazard on a sort of chess board, or from the shapes assumed by the droops of coffee in the bottom of a saucer, those who resort to mesmerism and sonambulism, the chiropodists, the drawers of horoscopes, and many others.

The cartomancists, however, are in the majority. The methods of all of them are identical, but their prices vary greatly. Their stock-in-trade, apart from some little imagination, considerable cunning and unlimited impudence, consists solely of a pack of cards, a rule clumsily hand-painted and pasted on to squares of cardboard. The cost of consulting the *tarot* ranges from a few shillings, eagerly paid by innumerable servant-girls and minor demi-mondaines, to five and even ten pounds. The fortune-teller who can command these latter prices deals with society ladies, but the most assiduous clients of all are actresses, who, with scarcely an exception, believe in the talents of the cartomancists, and many of whom go week after week to the same wise woman and swallow, with incomprehensible docility, the contradictory revelations elaborated for their benefit. The cheaper fortune-tellers are seldom or never consulted by men, but curiously enough, the cartomancists whose charges are high often have men among their customers. There is one known speculator on the Paris Bourse, who never ventures his money unless the *tarot* has assured him of the likelihood of his being successful; and it must be admitted that his confidence in the cards has, so far, not betrayed him, for he is exceedingly rich.

The police have made desperate efforts on various occasions to put a stop to this form of swindling, but they have had practically to abandon the enterprise as hopeless. The Parisienne can no more dispense with her fortune-tellers than with her dressmaker or milliner. However, not a few members of the soothsaying corporation ultimately get into trouble with the police by being too content with "what must be called the legitimate" profits of their profession. Owing to the hold they obtain over their victims, and the knowledge they acquire of their secrets, they are tempted not infrequently to launch out into blackmailing and other disreputable transactions, which land them not infrequently in the criminal dock. Indeed, an account of what goes on in connection with these fortune-telling dens would make a very curious chapter in a description of the shady side of Parisian life.

THE PREVENTION OF MALARIA.

(The Times, Friday, February 9th.)

The Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine has just issued a memoir, or small book, containing "Instructions for the Prevention of Malarial Fever," for the use of residents in malarious places, and these instructions are of so simple and sufficient character, and so well calculated to effect the purpose for which they are designed, that we are inclined to repeat, for the sake of calling attention to them, the leading facts of one of the most important discoveries of modern times. The fevers collectively termed malarial, which range from what was not uncommon in certain parts of England fifty years ago, under the name of "ague," to the malignant and rapidly fatal forms met with in the tropics, have constituted, perhaps, the chief impediment to the colonization by Europeans of many countries in other respects adapted to be admirably adapted to undergo development under the influence of civilized immigrants. In some of these countries the native races are at least partially free from liability to the disease; but, even when this is the case, and it is by no means universal, they are generally of low type and of depressed vitality. Vast regions of Africa have long been regarded as almost necessarily fatal to white races; millions of acres in India are left without cultivation; and vast portions of the tropics have been deserted by the white races. The Italian Campaign, so fertile and populous under the dominion of the Romans, has in modern times been reduced by malaria to an arid waste almost destitute of human inhabitants; and Wellington's army when in Estremadura, was assailed with such severity as to threaten its very existence. In England during many periods of our history malaria has prevailed over wide districts, and even within living memory was not uncommon in the "fen country"; but, not least of the difficulties which it presented to invaders was due to its constant tendency to disquiet before drainage and cultivation. Chiefly from this cause it has been to so large an extent banished from our shores that English physicians have had but restricted opportunities of studying its phenomena, while the observers who have traced its course in foreign countries have worked out innumerable details with regard to its behaviour, the varied climatic conditions under which it exists, its relation to soil, to altitude, and to vegetation, which were practically valueless until, within the last few years, the key was obtained to its interpretation. This key has been afforded, at last, quite as much by improvements in instruments and methods of research as by increased diligence on the part of those by whom they were employed.

It had long been known that any continued prevalence of malarial fever was attended by the occurrence of extensive changes, apparently of a degenerative character, in the physical condition of the blood; and these changes, when they were made the subjects of investigation by the aid of modern microscopes, were traced to the presence of parasites as invariable concomitants of the disease. Blood owes its colour to the presence of innumerable minute bodies called red corpuscles; bodies so minute and so numerous that single cubic millimetre of blood contains an average of about five millions of them; and it was within these corpuscles that the parasites were discovered. Malarial fevers are characterized by definite exacerbations and intermissions; and it soon became apparent that these were severally coincident, in point of time, with successive stages of the life history of the parasite, each attack of fever denoting the hatching of a new brood, and presenting the successive stages of hatching, growth, and development, coincidently with the growth and development, at the conclusion of which each corpuscle which had been invaded by them perished, and its function as a carrier of oxygen to the tissues was abolished. Unlike the now familiar vegetable parasites collectively called microbes, by which many other diseases are occasioned, the parasite of malaria belongs to the animal kingdom; but, like the microbes, its numbers increase with amazing rapidity. Until they reach to a considerable amount, the parasite would not be productive of serious injury, but by the time that an attack of fever is fairly established, these numbers often amount to something like two hundred and fifty millions, and thence would range upwards to a billion. It had long been known that quinine was the most potent of all remedies for ague; and its administration at all sorts of times and in all sorts of doses had gradually led to the experimental determination of the conditions of its greatest efficacy; but, prior to the discovery of the parasite, it was regarded as being essentially "anti-periodic" in its effects, that is to say, as exerting some mysterious influence in preventing the rhythmic recurrence of morbid phenomena. The discovery of the parasite led to the further discovery that quinine cured ague simply by poisoning the parasite; and that it was most effective for this purpose when given in such doses and in such a way as to be present in the blood in sufficient quantity during a certain period of their growth. But it seldom killed them all, and more usually left a few individuals, perhaps more or less languishing, but still living and capable of reproducing, and capable of giving rise to a fresh attack of fever, even after the lapse of many months.

The next stage in the investigation was to ascertain through what channel the malaria parasite became introduced into the human body and Dr. Patrick Manson, who had previously traced another form of infection to the mosquito, we believe, the first to suggest that this insect was the most probable delinquent. The investigation of Major Ross, to whose letter claiming priority we were glad to give insertion on Wednesday, finally established the correctness of the hypothesis. The particular mosquito concerned was the *Anopheles*, and the evidence of the crime is complete. He, or rather she, for the ladies of the family are the sole offenders, is furnished with salivary glands which secrete the poison which she injects into her bites. A female may be hatched from a captured larva, and fed for the first time by being permitted to bite a man suffering from fever. She will swallow one or more of the parasites or their spores as part of her meal, and if kept in confinement, their life within her body may be observed. They ultimately find their way from her stomach to her salivary glands, and from the blood of the next victim whom she may select or may be furnished with. The process can be watched from beginning to end, and it constitutes a chain of morbid action of the most interesting and curious character, which, at the same time, completely clears up the whole question of the nature and causation of the fever. All species of malarial ague, about which "malaria" and the like have been rendered obsolete. There is no reason to believe that the parasite finds access to the human body through any other channel, or that the "gnats" or "mosquitoes" which infest regions free from malaria are examples of *Anopheles*. If this particular insect could be exterminated there is every justification for the hope that malarial fevers would disappear from the earth; and, fortunately, the extermination does not seem likely to present any insuperable difficulties. The egg of a malarious female, when hatched, lives in a watery medium, and the larva, when hatched, lives in water for about a week before they assume the mosquito form. As larvae, like those of the common gnat, they rise to the surface of the water to breathe, and film of oil on the surface is specially fatal to them, by blocking up their air spiracles. The fully formed mosquito lives for many weeks, but is not presumed to travel far, and probably always obtains its food within easy reach of its native pool of water, to which it periodically returns for the purpose of depositing its eggs. Much may be done, therefore, by drying up the pools in the vicinity of houses, or by treating them once a week with a film of kerosene oil. Much may be done also by killing the mature insect when resting upon a wall after its meal; and it is to be noted that the true *Anopheles* rests with its body almost at right angles to the surface of the wall, while the absolutely or comparatively harmless gnat rests with its body parallel to the wall, or even somewhat inclining towards it. The little book or pamphlet to which we refer contains instructions for identifying and destroying the *Anopheles*, both in its adult and in its larval forms, and also for rendering habitations in the tropics as safe as may be possible against its incursions. The whole of the few pages of which it consists are written with admirable brevity and clearness, and should enable Englishmen, armed with complete ignorance of knowledge, to preserve their health in regions which have proved only too fatal to many generations of their predecessors.

THE HIGHER INFLUENZA.

[By M. S.]

I do not speak of that form of the disease of which the bilious are wont to boast "Cured in a day, sir, with a bottle and a half of old Scotch." Little head the next morning—that was all. Nor do I refer to any mere three-day form of it—nothing so ephemeral comes within my ken. For these are but the lower walks of the disease, while I speak of the Higher Influenza, where the patient, prostrate for a week at least, feels a mental and spiritual exhaustion never dreamed of by the *profane vulgar*, never known save to the initiated and lived in an enchanted land of song and fairy visions. Let those who doubt that I say sooth catch the disease at once in its acutest form and they will bear willing witness in my favour. I was sad at heart when I discovered from unmistakable symptoms one morning that I had it. I secretly resolved to get to the office and try the one-day cure. But my hypocrisy with the maternal egg was speedily discovered.

"You're eating nothing," said Flora. "Your eyes are running, and you keep shivering." I shall send for the doctor at once. "You have influenza."

She sent for him, and I knew his detestable system was to keep his patient in bed until completely recovered. He, of course, sentenced me to bed at once. "Decaf-tea and milk-and-soda alternately every hour" were his orders. When he had gone, I learned from Flora that for reasons connected with the baby's diet she could not nurse me, and a professional nurse was ordered in. Then, indeed, my doom was sealed. For twenty-four hours I tossed, kicked, perspired, and groined to find an achy in every limb. The doctor came and said I was going on excellently, that my temperature was but little above its normal level, and that in a week or so I should be up. I immediately resumed and maintained during the day the kicking, tossing, and perspiring. A night nurse begged me to try to sleep. I obediently closed my eyes, and instantly beheld a limitless forest of huge serpents; monster anacandas, vast pythons, hooded cobras, and feroce rattle-snakes writhed before me. I opened my eyes again. When I next closed them it was to find myself in the midst of a tangle of monstrous machinery, throwing out gigantic arms in every direction, while mocking loudly pigmies ran in and out among its giant convolutions and gibbered hideously at me. Evidently there was no chance of sleep. In despair I turned my thoughts to the war, and then suddenly and to my amazement I found not only that I was awake, but that my brain was in a state of abnormal activity. In an instant I was a Kitchener of force, might, and glory. I could hear the roar of the guns, the crack of the rifles, the hiss of the shells. By daylight we were in his rear on a hill commanding his position. Under a terrific howitzer fire, our cavalry and mounted infantry rushed the kopjes in front of us and drove the Boers out with the naked steel. Meanwhile, Mathew from the front was attacking the enemy in force, and we could plainly hear the roar of his cannon. My eyes were now closed in ecstasy, and I could distinctly see our cavalry in the enemy's trenches, driving them headlong before us. From the trenches I could hear the pipes shrill at "March, Cock of the North." So clear yet distant was the sound that I turned to the nurse and said, "Do you hear the band?"

She went to the window and listened, then came to me and said, "There's nothing. It's a symptom of the disease to think you hear music. Try to forget it." I smiled—I could but smile—and shut my eyes again. Everywhere the Boers were in retreat, everywhere falling by scores before our restless pursuit, everywhere those who escaped from the trenches found refuge in waiting for them, and the playing of the bands grew louder and louder, and now it was "Rule, Britannia," they played. Croquet's army—what was left of it—had surrendered!

The nurse now took my temperature, and said it was nearly normal. I saw her write it down, and noticed that the first figure was a nine. Think of it! Temperature, so to speak, below proof; and yet this mental exaltation. I was about to shut my eyes again, for I was tired, when the curtains caught my eye. They consisted of butterflies, birds, and flowers, but in the gentle glow of the firelight I saw a hundred lovely shapes whose existence I had never before suspected. There were kings and queens, ecclesiastics in pontifical robes, knights in armour, lovely maidens and stately youths, and a host of laughing tripping fairies. I looked steadily at the tapestry, and noted that it was two minutes to three, and that I was wide awake. Then slowly at first and afterwards with increasing speed the figures moved out of the tapestry and began climbing to the cornice above them. There are but six inches between the cornice and the ceiling, but this space rapidly widened as the splendid glittering crowd thronged there, while after them came tripping over the glassy surface of the mirror lovely fairy shapes in red and gold and silver till the cornice was a moving mass of beautiful figures, and before my eyes was transacted a transformation scene of such magnificence as the bards of old Drury never knew.

Suddenly, as my shoulder was gently shaken, it all vanished, and a voice whispered in my ear, "Your soda-and-milk."

As I settled down once again to the enjoyment of my thoughts, I heard a voice at a distance singing a bright and lively song of which I could but imperfectly catch the words. This was followed by some exquisite choral singing, to which I listened with wide-open eyes, and then came a selection from my favourite operas played by a band of stupendous proportions, yet all at a distance and all most softly and exquisitely modulated. Twice again through the night I saw that magic procession from curtains to cornice, and the impression is strong on me now that I can recall it at any moment. I live in an enchanted land, with beautiful things all about me. It is an accompanied life, a life of sweet music, mellowed and hallowed by distance, a life blissful as a lotus-eater's, and a life that I shall be loath to quit for the humdrumness of mere mundane existence.

Meanwhile I close my eyes, and I am at once with Bobs in Pretoria, where I hear the screams of Mrs. Kruger as she is subjected to a rigorous personal examination by a female searcher. Presently her skirt is brought in and examined by the general staff. Sewn up in it are found bonds, bank notes, and diamonds to an amount far exceeding anything her husband ever asked for moral and intellectual damage. A few minutes later some one brings in the President's st— But here the discreet vision fades as I hear that well-known voice in my elbow whisper, "Your beef-tea, sir."—*P. M. Gazette.*

A GENTLEMAN RANKER.

He was sitting with his back against a boulder, his rifle-barrel resting on a stone, the stock on his knees. He was using the stock for a desk, and was writing laboriously in pencil on a crumpled half-sheet of paper.

"This is devilish hard work," he said, "but I must get it done to-day. I was always a poor fist at a letter. How do you spell 'reconnaissance'?"

Trooper 943 gave him his idea of it. "That's all wrong," he said. "In sure there isn't a 'k' in it. But it doesn't matter. All my spellings go to the deuce. I never learnt anything at school, and not much since."

Trooper 943 laughed. "Seems to me you know a lot," he said.

"No blarney! If you don't know as much you ought to be ashamed of yourself."

Trooper 943 laughed again. He was lying on his stomach with a sharp eye towards a possible shot. A dozen other men were intent on the same business, while a couple more were looking after the horses.

"They never offered me no commission," he said. "Well, I didn't take the one they offered me. I made up my mind when I was a kid I wasn't going to be a gentleman. I don't see why you should keep on sniggering. Tell me how to spell that blessed French officer's name, and shut up. I didn't see the good of being a gentleman, like a lot of chaps I knew; it didn't look like a trade that'd suit me. I did all sorts of things to harden myself; used to wrap up in a blanket and sleep on the floor instead of in bed. I daresay you think that was all tommy rot. Well, pards it was."

A bullet buzzed overhead. Trooper 943 sighed and fired.

"Got him."

"I wouldn't like to be the bloke's wife and family."

"Tell me if you see anything else. I must get this finished."

He scribbled on for a time in silence, dropped his pencil, picked it up, and rose to stretch himself.

"Get down, stupid!" said Trooper 943.

A second bullet buzzed, and the other's right arm dropped to his side.

"Slack through the shoulders," he said. He sat down again, looking a little peeved.

"Now you've bin spoiling your handwriting," said 943. "Told you so. Does it hurt?"

"No, not much. Here, just sign my name at the end of that letter, will you?"

Trooper 943 signed the name in a shambling, awkward hand. Then he began to grumble again.

"Just like you! The best in our little lot got a hole in him. Blimey, if you ain't a daisy!"

The other took the letter and crammed it into his pocket with his left hand.

"Shut up," he said. "I can shoot from the left. Hallo, look out!"

The men were on their feet and in the saddle in a moment, all but Trooper 943, who fell to one of the twenty bullets that had spit amongst them. The letter-writer was down again in a flash and had him across his horse. Trooper 943 laughed again, though rather feebly. "Well, you are a daisy!" he said.

The men scattered and rode off in a spatter of bullets.

"Drop me," said Trooper 943. "I'll be all right. You'll only get copped."

"Shut up!"

"They did not get copped, but it was a ride to be remembered all the days of a fella's life, also, the letter was spoiled."

"You ought to 'ave the V.C.," said 943, some hours later. "You fair saved me."

"Did I?" said a voice from the next bed.

"And you spoilt my letter, you ungrateful blagger. You might have chosen somewhere else to bleed."

Trooper 943 grinned and tried to turn his head.

"Fair saved me, you did," he said. "You ain't a gentleman, are you? Oh, no!"

Exchange.

A TIGER STORY.

Bangplasi is excited over a tale about a tiger. It seems that on the 9th ult., a man and his wife and child were walking into the town from their home some 300 yds away in the jungle, and they had got to the Bangplasi hill when the woman disappeared. She had fallen behind, and the man sat down and waited till he began to get alarmed. Then he went to investigate, and found blood leading from the road along a jungle path. That scared him and he cleared out for Bangplasi with his child as quickly as possible. Four men who were out hunting hares on the hill next day started a tiger close to the very spot where the woman was last seen. The animal roared, and then bolted. Since then the people of Bangplasi have been afraid to go near the place. Some twenty of the garrison have been out trying to find the tiger, but did not succeed. No further trace of the woman was seen by any of them, however, beyond the few drops of blood, and evil-minded people are saying that the lady may have eloped, and that the presence of the tiger next day was only a coincidence.—*Bangkok Times.*

WORLD'S MOST EXPENSIVE PIPE.

The Shah-in-Shah, of Persia (king of kings), the present ruler of Persia, owns the world's costliest pipe. It is the Kalian, or state pipe, and is used on special occasions. It is valued at \$400,000, and is ornamented with diamonds, rubies and emeralds. The long, snake-like stem and the bowl are of pure gold. The Sultan of Turkey also possesses pipes of great value. In 1862, when the Prince of Wales was on a visit to Turkey, he was invited by the Sultan to smoke a narghila, an Oriental pipe, in which the smoke passes through water. The pipe was studded with diamonds and was worth \$15,000. It was given to the prince as a memento of his visit to Constantinople. Another pipe, made entirely of mother-of-pearl and amber, and belonging to Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria, is reported as costing \$2,000.

A SOUTH SEA PARSON'S WIFE.

FLETCHER CHRISTIAN'S GRAND-DAUGHTER.

"Died on December 5th, 1899, at Norfolk Island, in the South Pacific, at the age of ninety years."

As I read the scant notes in an Australian paper, memory goes back to a day more than twenty years ago, and I see before me the calm, sweet face, and deep, kindly eyes, of one of the most lovable and gentle old women that ever lived—a woman whose very presence and soft, tender voice filled the heart of many a rough wandering sailor with thoughts of home and peace, and all that was good and pure. Such was Sarah Nobbs, the grand-daughter of the famous and fearless leader of the *Quincy* mutiny, and the wife of George Fletcher Christian, who more than fifty years was chaplain to the Pitcairn and Norfolk Islanders. Nobbs had had a most adventurous career even before she came to lonely little Pitcairn and married Sarah Christian. Entered at eleven years of age in 1811 on the books of the *Roebuck* in 1813 he sailed as junior officer in the *Indefatigable* to "Botany Bay."

Then he entered the Chilean service under Lord Cochrane, and in 1817 was made lieutenant for distinguished services. He took part in the famous cutting out of the Spanish frigate *Esmeralda*, of forty guns, under the batteries of Callao at midnight of November 5th, 1820; attempted to capture a heavily armed Spanish ship near the Chilean fortress of Arica; was defeated, with a loss of forty-eight men out of a party of sixty-four, and carried a prisoner into the stronghold of the savage robber and adventurer, Benavides, with sixteen others of his command. Three of these were Englishmen, and they, with Nobbs, after witnessing the slaughter of their comrades, were exchanged for four of Benavides's officers. Quitting the Chilean service, Nobbs entered the English merchant service, and after some extraordinary adventures and escapes from death he suddenly conceived the idea of settling down on Pitcairn Island, the people of which were then attracting much attention in England. Reaching Callao, he bought a cutter of 15 tons burthen, and accompanied by an equally adventurous American with the particularly American name of Noah Bunker, he reached Pitcairn in October, 1828, and in the following year he married Sarah Christian; and for more than fifty years he was the beloved friend and pastor of the descendants of the *Bounty* mutineers. He died at Norfolk Island in 1884, and his wife has thus survived him for fifteen years. She lived to see her children of the fifth generation. Five stalwart sons and the same number of daughters still survive her, and on Norfolk and Pitcairn Islands her direct descendants number nearly two hundred.

Well fitted was such a girl as Sarah Christian to mate with such a man as George Nobbs, when he married her in 1820. He, a brave sailor, intense in his devotion to his country and his pride in its glorious naval annals; she, a grandchild of a man who was himself a King's officer, but was driven to despair and madness by the tyranny of his famous but savage-tempered commander. That they should meet and become the progenitors of daring and adventurous seamen and whalers is but one of the minor and unrecorded events that go to build up England's supremacy of the sea.

L. B. in *P. M. Gazette.*

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THE Steamship
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Captain E. Fey, will be despatched for the above ports, on TUESDAY, the 20th instant, at 1 P.M.
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"CALCHAS,"
Captain Gregory, will be despatched as above on TUESDAY, the 20th March.
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Agents.
Hongkong, 10th February, 1900. [182b]

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Having connexion with Company's Mail Steamers to ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, MESSINA, NAPLES, LEGHORN AND GENOA.

Also, ALL MEDITERRANEAN, ADRIATIC, LEVANTINE, AND SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS up to CALLOA.

Taking Cargo at through Rates to PERSIAN GULF AND BAGDAD, also BARCELONA, VALENZA, ALICANTE, ALMERIA AND MALAGA.

THE Steamship

"BISAGNO,"
Captain Maganzini, will be despatched as above on WEDNESDAY, the 21st instant, at Noon.

At BOMBAY, the Steamers are discharging in VICTORIA DOCK.

For further Particulars regarding Freight and Passage, apply to
CARLOWITZ & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 16th March, 1900. [351b]

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM TO YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

THE Company's Steamship

MARIA VALERIE,
Captain A. Felner, will leave for the above places, on WEDNESDAY, the 22nd instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
SANDER, WIELER & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 14th March, 1900. [329b]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR CEBU AND ILOILO.

THE Company's Steamship

"KAIFONG,"
Captain Pennefather, will be despatched as above on FRIDAY, the 23rd instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 16th March, 1900. [348b]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Company's Steamship

"ORESTES,"
Captain Peters, will be despatched on MONDAY, the 26th March.

For Freight, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 24th February, 1900. [248b]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Company's Steamship

"GLAUCUS,"
Captain Barwise, will be despatched on TUESDAY, the 27th April.

For Freight, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 14th March, 1900. [330b]

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO'S "NEW YORK" LINE.

FOR NEW YORK, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Steamship

"LOVSTAKKEN,"
will be despatched for the above Port on or about the 15th April.

For Freight, apply to
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 15th March, 1900. [339b]

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

(Calling at PORT DARWIN and QUEENSLAND PORTS, and taking through Cargo to ADELAIDE, NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA, &c.)

THE Steamship

"EASTERN,"
Captain Winthrop, will be despatched as above on THURSDAY, the 1st May, at Noon.

This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber, which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions, Ice, &c., throughout the voyage.

This Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric-light.

A Stewardess and a duly qualified Surgeon are carried.

N.B.—Return Tickets issued by this Company to and from AUSTRALIA, are available for return by the Steamers of the CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY and vice versa.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 13th March, 1900. [347b]

Shipping.

STEAMERS.

THE OSAKA SHOSHEN KAISHA, LIMITED.
FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAMSUI.
THE Company's Steamship

"MAIDZURU MARU,"
Captain T. Ogata, will be despatched for the above ports, TO-MORROW, the 18th instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
THE MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA, Agents.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1900. [345]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SINGAPORE, SAMARANG AND SOERABAYA.

THE Company's Steamship

"SHANTUNG,"
Captain Saito, will be despatched as above on SATURDAY, the 24th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 16th March, 1900. [349b]

FOR NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Steamship

"PATHAN,"
will be despatched for the above Port on or about the 7th April.

For Freight, apply to
DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,
Agents.
Hongkong, 6th March, 1900. [132b]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR PORT DARWIN, QUEENSLAND PORTS, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

THE Company's Steamship

"CHINGTU,"
Captain Williams, will be despatched on TUESDAY, the 10th April, at Noon.

The attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by this Steamer. The First-class Saloon is situated forward of the Engines. A Refrigerating Chamber ensures the Supply of Fresh Provisions during the entire voyage.

A duly qualified Surgeon is carried and the Vessel is fitted throughout with Electric Light.

N.B.—Return Tickets issued by this Company to and from AUSTRALIA are available for return by the Steamers of the EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN S.S. Co. and vice versa.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 16th March, 1900. [343b]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA.

THE Company's Steamship

"CHINGTU,"
Captain Williams, will be despatched as above on TUESDAY, the 10th April.

The attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by this Steamer. The First Class Saloon is situated forward of the Engines.

A duly qualified Surgeon is carried and the Vessel is fitted throughout with Electric Light.

For Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 16th March, 1900. [344b]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR CEBU AND ILOILO.

THE Company's Steamship

"KAIFONG,"
Captain Pennefather, will be despatched as above on FRIDAY, the 23rd instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 16th March, 1900. [348b]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Company's Steamship

"ORESTES,"
Captain Peters, will be despatched on MONDAY, the 26th March.

For Freight, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 24th February, 1900. [248b]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Company's Steamship

"GLAUCUS,"
Captain Barwise, will be despatched on TUESDAY, the 27th April.

For Freight, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 14th March, 1900. [330b]

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO'S "NEW YORK" LINE.

FOR NEW YORK, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Steamship

"LOVSTAKKEN,"
will be despatched for the above Port on or about the 15th April.

For Freight, apply to
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 15th March, 1900. [339b]

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

(Calling at PORT DARWIN and QUEENSLAND PORTS, and taking through Cargo to ADELAIDE, NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA, &c.)

THE Steamship

"EASTERN,"
Captain Winthrop, will be despatched as above on THURSDAY, the 1st May, at Noon.

This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber, which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions, Ice, &c., throughout the voyage.

This Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric-light.

A Stewardess and a duly qualified Surgeon are carried.

N.B.—Return Tickets issued by this Company to and from AUSTRALIA, are available for return by the Steamers of the CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY and vice versa.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 13th March, 1900. [347b]

Intimations.

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE."

Clarke's Blood Mixture

THE WORLD-FAMED BLOOD PURIFIER AND RESTORER.

IS WARRANTED TO CLEAR THE BLOOD

from all impurities from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Skin and Blood Diseases, Blackheads, Pimples, and Sores of all kinds. It is a never-failing and permanent Cure. It Cures Old Sores. Cures Sores on the Neck. Cures Sore Legs. Cures Rheumatism or Pimples on the Face. Cures Scalds. Cures Ulcers. Cures Blood and Skin Diseases. Cures Glandular Swellings. Cures the Urinary System. Clears the Blood from all impure Matter. It removes the cause from the Blood and Bones. It is a real specific for Gout and Rheumatic pains. As this Mixture is pleasant to the taste, and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, the Proprietors solicit sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS OF WONDERFUL CURES PROVE THE TRUTH OF THE WORLD.

Clarke's Blood Mixture is sold in Bottles of 2s. 6d. each, and in cases containing six times the quantity, sufficient to effect a permanent cure in the most inveterate cases. ALL CHEMISTS, DRUGGISTS, AND PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS throughout the world. Proprietors, THE LIVERPOOL AND MANCHESTER DISPENSARY CO., LONDON, ENGLAND. Trade Mark: "Blood Mixture."

CLARKE'S BLOOD MIXTURE.

CAUTION.—Purchasers of Clarke's Blood Mixture should see that they get the genuine article. Worthless imitations and substitutes are sometimes passed off by unprincipled vendors. The words "LIVERPOOL AND MANCHESTER DISPENSARY CO., LONDON, ENGLAND" are engraved on the Government Stamp, and Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture is blown in the bottle, WITHOUT WHICH NONE ARE GENUINE.

F. BLACKHEAD & CO.

SHIP CHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS, COAL AND PROVISION MERCHANTS, NAVAL CONTRACTORS AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS.

PRAYA CENTRAL HONGKONG, SOAP MANUFACTURERS.

SOLE AGENTS FOR HARTMANN'S RAHTEN'S GENUINE COMPOSITION RED HAND BRAND, HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT, DAIMLER'S PATENT MOTOR LAUNCHES, &c., &c., &c.

Sole Agents for FERGUSON'S SPECIAL CREAM and P. & O. SPECIAL LIQUOR SCOTCH WHISKY.

EVERY KIND OF SHIP'S STORES AND REQUISITES ALWAYS IN STOCK AT REASONABLE PRICES.

Hongkong, 14th May, 1896. [48]

NOTICE.

THE BEST PREVENTIVE OF ALL INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

JEYES FLUID THE BEST DISINFECTANT

AVOID ALL RISK OF OUTBREAK BY ITS USE.

W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co., Bank Buildings.

Hongkong, 9th March, 1897. [37]

CHS. J. GAUPP & CO.

CHRONOMETER, WATCH, AND CLOCK MAKERS, JEWELLERS, SILVER SMITHS, AND OPTICIANS.

CHARTS AND BOOKS NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Sole Agents for Louis Audemars' Watches awarded the highest Prizes at every Exhibition; and for Voigtlander and Sohn's CELEBRATED OPERA GLASSES, MARINE GLASSES AND SPYGLASSES.

Nos. 44 & 46, Queen's Road Central. [41]

MEE CHEUNG, PHOTODUPLICATION.

TOP FLOOR OF ICE HOUSE, IN Ice-House Road.

IS now in a position, in his New and Commodious Premises, to execute, as heretofore, ALL PHOTOGRAPHIC ART PRACTICED in the Colony or in any part of the Far East. GROUPS AND VIEWS a specialty.

Hongkong, 22nd September 1898. [40]

NOTICE.

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR DEBTS.

Neither the CAPTAINS, the AGENTS, nor the OWNERS will be RESPONSIBLE for any DEBT contracted by the Officers or the Crews of the following Vessels during their stay in Hongkong Harbours:—

ARRATOON-APCAR, Brit. str., E. Fey.—David Sassoon, Sons & Co.

CLARKE, Capt. and Mrs. A. C.

Dawn, Mr. G. H.

Dow, Mr. P.

Dreze, Mr. F. J. Haver

Ezekiel, Mr. J. S.

Forbes, Mr. A.

Fraser, Lt.-Col. A. R.

Goldsmith, Monsieur

Gompertz, Mr. H. H.

Gorges, Colonel E. H.

Graham, Mr. D. M.

Green, Mr. F.

Gros, Mr. Edward F.

Gras, Mr. J.

Henderson, Mr.

Inchbold, Mr. Chantrey

John, Major G. R. St.

Lee, Mr. J. E.

Martin, Mr. R.

Mitchell, Mr. R.

O'Gorman, Lt.-Col. The

Pollock, Hon. H. E.

Pyne, Capt. H. V.

Reilly, Major G. W.

Smyth, Mr. J.

Stokes, Mr. A. G.

Thomson, Mr. O. D.

Wardwell, Misses (2)

Wardwell, Miss

Wheeler, Mr. G. H.

Wright, Mr. J. W. de

Zuniga, Mr. J. M. de

Intimations.

NOTICE.

NIGHT SCHOOL FOR EUROPEANS, by an EX-SCHOOLMASTER.

Terms moderate, for Particulars apply to

c/o This Office.

Hongkong, 18th August, 1899. [1043a]

KANANGA

OF JAPAN

(REGISTERED)

RIGAUD and Co

PARIS

Kananga Water, the most delightful Toilet Water, it renders the skin firm, relieves mosquito bites and imparts a delicate fragrance and feeling of comfort and freshness.

New Sensations in Perfumery

RIGAUD'S KANANGA EXTRACT

RIGAUD'S WHITE ROSE

RIGAUD'S MELATI EXTRACT

RIGAUD'S IKORA D'AFRIQUE EXTRACT

RIGAUD'S LILY OF THE VALLEY EXTRACT

RIGAUD'S YLANGYLANG EXTRACT

RIGAUD'S BANTAN EXTRACT

RIGAUD'S JASMINE or Chamille EXTRACT

8, RUE VIVIENNE, 8, PARIS

SIEN TING, SURGEON DENTIST.

No. 10, D'AGUILAR STREET.

TERMS VERY MODERATE.

Consultation free.

Hongkong, 27th September, 1898. [39]

VISITORS AT THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

Achard, Mr. Louis

Aiken, Mr. J. H.

Angus, Mrs. John

Antrobus, Mr. J. J.

Atherton, Mrs. J. Misses

Banister, Rev. H. M.

Bannister, Miss

Barbassus, Mr.

Barber, Mr. J. N.

Barlow, Mr. B. J.

Bartlett, Mr. J. F. N.

Bayot, Mr. F. M.

Black, Mr. A. A.

Black, Mr. F. W.